The Nation.

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The Week.

By an unexpectedly large majority of fifty-five, the "railway-pooling" amendment to the interstate-commerce law passed the House of Representatives on Wednesday week. The same amendment was urged last summer, but failed of consideration. It virtually repeals the famous section 5 of the interstate law, under which "different and competing common-carriers" were forbidden "to enter into any contract, agreement, or arrangement for the division among themselves or with other carriers of the whole or any portion of their traffic, or any of their gross or net earnings." The purpose of this original section was plain. The disastrous railway "rate wars" of 1884 and 1885 had been settled by a combination of the exhausted companies, under the terms of which selected arbitrators, at the beginning of every year, allotted to each company its proportion of the next year's competitive traffic. This allotment, as in the case of the famous "Trunk-Line pool," was based on the ascertained distribution of tonnage in the preceding year. If then a company carried a larger proportion of the tonnage than its allotment at the year's opening, its net earnings on the excess were paid in to the pool commissioners for distribution to companies which fell short. This allotment was, of course, subject to annual modification. If a company ran above its agreed percentage in one year, it received no surplus revenue over the regular allotment. But its claim was good, at the opening of the next year, for an increase in percentage. There were many other pooling systems, but this was the most conspicuous and successful.

The railways argued that, without such formal union, a weaker road invariably resorted to a lowering of rates secretly offered to large shippers of merchandise, and this led invariably to a general cut by other competitors, resulting sometimes in the loss of all profit on the business. The interstate commissioners themselves, in their annual report this year, allege as one chief cause of the many railway bankruptcies that, owing to fierce competition, "it is probable that a large amount of competitive traffic has been handled at such low rates that it became a source of loss rather than revenue." The Atchison collapse and the subsequent book-keeping scandals were the immediate results of efforts to live under these hard conditions. On the other hand, the possibility of exorbitant rates under a pooling system has been urged with considerable force. The recent report of the interstate commissioners, though generally favoring the change, advises against it unless the conditions and regulations imposed on pooling contracts can be made sure and readily enforceable. This the House amendment undertakes to provide through the power expressly conferred on the commissioners "to observe the working, operation, and effect of every such contract," and to require, when deemed advisable, that such rates and facilities shall be changed or modified. In an extreme case they are empowered to disapprove and terminate the contract itself. It was argued in last week's debate that the commission's intervention would be greatly hampered by legal and constitutional difficulties, and this will undoubtedly be one specially interesting feature if the act passes the Senate. As the first actual modification of the interstate law's most drastic provisions, the incident is at all events of great significance.

The decision of the banking and currency committee of the House to report the Carlisle bill commits nobody, not even the members of the committee, to its support in all details. Doubtless the committee found that it might sit the session out without being able to agree on a bill, and so, in order to get at the sense of the House by means of actual discussion and voting, wisely determined to report some sort of bill, and, the secretary's being handy, took that. The distinguishing features of the Carlisle bill are: (1) State banknotes under certain conditions; (2) the locking up (not cancellation) of $30 of greenbacks to be deposited by the banks for each $100 of banknotes taken out; (3) the secretary of the treasury to have power in his discretion to retire legal-tender notes not exceeding $70 for each $100 of new banknotes taken out; (4) repeal of all provisions of law which require a reserve to be kept on account of deposits; (5) all banks to be responsible for the notes of all other banks; (6) all existing national banknotes to be retired within a limited time and new notes taken out. In other particulars the Carlisle plan agrees with the Baltimore plan, both of which provide that the banks may issue notes against their general assets and a safety fund equal to 5 per cent. of all the notes outstanding.

The merits of the bill are already under debate. The minority of the committee have touched the sore spot in directing attention to the State banknote clauses of Mr. Carlisle's measure. The report adverts to the fact that the chairman of the committee himself led the attack against State banknotes at the last session, when the House voted, by a majority of 70, to retain the 10 per cent. tax. There is no reason to suppose that Mr. Springer has changed his mind on this subject. The minority report makes a strong point when it says that the conditions which the Carlisle bill would bring about, would cause banks already in the national system to abandon it and become State banks. This is undoubtedly true. The conditions of note-issue would be more favorable generally under State than under national laws. There would be a gradual but steady change from the latter to the former, and this change would be accelerated by another provision of the Carlisle bill, which compels national banks to retire their present circulation and take up their security bonds.

The Government gold reserve has already fallen below the $100,000,000 mark. For the first Treasury statement after the recent loan it was possible to go back to the old form and print the gold reserve in the proud old way. But a single month has made an end of this. No one need regret it. The maintenance of the reserve would no longer deceive foreign investors. They clearly perceived and said that the last loan was only a stop-gap, and have been just as distrustful of our financial system with the gold at upwards of $100,000,000 as they were when it was under $60,000,000. At home the reserve has lost its superstitious reverence. What now makes bankers and investors dubious is not the fact that the reserve is at this or that figure, but the fact that we are tied up to a vicious financial system which makes it possible to drain the Government store, no matter what its size. The thing we now need is to get the people and Congress to see this with equal clearness and to give us relief. The rapid depletion will make them see it more quickly than anything else.

The pension-appropriation bill, which was taken up in the House on Thursday, calls for $141,581,570 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, of which $140,000,000 is for pensions and the remainder for running expenses. The expenditures for pensions during the fiscal year ending last June were $139,804,461. The commissioner of pensions, in his annual report, expresses the opinion that "in the year 1895, thirty years after the close of the war, the pension-roll must, in the course of nature, reach its highest limit in numbers and thereafter begin to decrease." Ground for this opinion is found in the fact that during the last fiscal year the net increase in the number of pensioners was only 3,532, the total number on the rolls last June being 969,544. The present Administration is enforcing

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the laws more rigorously than used to be the case, and the proportion of unworthy claims granted is smaller than ever before. It must be that few deserving claims can now remain for presentation, and it therefore seems reasonable to believe that the limit must soon be reached. Indeed, the estimate for the next fiscal year calls for only about the same sum as was expended during the year ending last summer.

The *Tribune's* logician was hard at work on Thursday to show how the solid Republican vote in the Senate against taking up the bill to strike off the Sugar Trust's duty was a tremendous manifestation of "hostility to the Sugar Monopoly." There is nothing the Republican Senators are more eager to do than to take away all protection from sugar-refining, but it is the irony of fate that they are never able to see their way clear to do it. The duty was "palmed off on them" in their own tariff of 1890, as the *Tribune* now confesses, but at that time became so firmly bound up with a bounty on raw sugar that no Republican can now, with logical consistency, vote against the Trust unless at the same time he gets the bounty back. This is the distressing situation which forces the Republican Senators into the unpleasant and entirely unintentional attitude of "appearing to insist upon retention of the protective duty for refiners." They are aching and burning to destroy that duty, but logic will not let them. The worst of it is that, even if they begin to see their way out of the bounty dilemma, the powerful reasoners of the Trust stand ready at any moment to furnish no end of new arguments why the duty should not be disturbed.

A most important gain for the cause of civil-service reform is the action of the President in issuing an order last week putting storekeepers, gaugers, and clerks in the offices of collectors of internal revenue in the classified service. It is not simply that a large number of places are thus rescued from the spoilsmen—2,600, it is estimated—but they are in a branch of the service where the abuses of the old system have always been most flagrant. Moreover, every such step forward makes further progress still easier.

Senator Lodge, in his remarks before the West Side Republican Club last Friday night, declared that "the party of construction, the party of action," had been "recalled to power." He went on to say that what the party of action was going to do was to "give the country a rest," and that what the party of construction was going to construct was—nothing. No tariff or currency bills for him — that would be "nonsense"; and he had hard things to say of those Republicans who talk of presenting such bills in the next Congress. Now what is this on Lodge's part but to take his place among the "critics," whom his soul so loathes, and to sneer at those who are doing "the world's work," as he expressed it, in the midst of much "dust and sweat"? There is McKinley sweating away at a tariff bill, and Walker and other world's workers laboring at currency measures, while the critical Lodge sits daintily to one side, safely out of the dust and the sweat, and calls their honest endeavors "nonsense"! We are ashamed of such conduct in a man who has professed so great a love for the dust and sweat of the world's work.

The recent election in Utah indicates that the Republicans are likely to control the State when it enters the Union next year, and thus increase by two their representation in the Senate. In 1892 there was a three-cornered contest between Republicans, Democrats, and "Liberals," in which the Democrats won by a plurality of 2,811; last month the third party disappeared, and the Republicans polled 1,823 more votes than the Democrats. It is by no means certain, however, that the Republicans are to be congratulated upon this victory. The State is going to be so close that the local managers of the party will undoubtedly claim that the only chance of carrying it in 1896 will be by concessions to the silver-men; and the two Senators, if they are Republicans, will be for free coinage and soft money.

There could not be a more striking illustration of the absurdity of Platt's pretension that there is what economists call an "effective demand" for him as a "boss," than that letter of instructions of his to the country editors which was printed in the *Evening Post* on Tuesday week. We have always maintained that his services as a "steerer" of the Republican party were purely gratuitous, and this letter shows that he thought so himself. He apparently saw perfectly well that nobody wanted him in any capacity at this crisis, so he proceeded to cook up a fictitious and fraudulent public outcry for, and fictitious and fraudulent praise of, himself. He is a resident of Owego and the president of an express company in this city. The population of that place is decreasing, and it evidently needs attention. Platt is doubtless its chief citizen, and must therefore be its main reliance for reform or improvement. That, therefore, is the proper field for any time or energy the express business may leave him for the elevation of his fellow-men. Here we have had enough of him. The worthy who "held over" five years in the quarantine commissionership on a fraudulent pretence, until he was ousted by the courts, and inflicted on us as a deal four new police justices, has destroyed even the attachment to him which his pleasing personality might have created. Not only this, but the secret ballot has destroyed the whole boss business. There is nothing in it any more, even for Platt.

Mr. Morton's announcement that he will not anticipate the election next November by appointing twelve judges of the Supreme Court, has more merits than one. It puts an end to one of the most candid attempts at a job that we can remember in many a day. There was not the smallest pretence that these judges were needed, or that during their twelve months' tenure they would have any work to do. The sole justification of the appointments, had they been made, would have been the fact that the Governor had the legal, technical power to make them, and that a certain number of gentlemen wanted the salaries. The effort to get him to act was, in fact, simply a demand for certain sums of money. This, however, is a comparatively small matter. What is most important and most gratifying in the announcement, is the public revelation that we once more have a civilized man in the chief office of the State.

It is now ten years since Hill took Mr. Cleveland's place, and during the whole of that period the civilized, intelligent, educated, and honest classes of the community have been all but completely shut out from influence on the executive department of the State Government. When Hill and Flower were in doubt of any sort, they took counsel with the criminal or semi-criminal class, a little collection of the Mikes, Jakes, and Barneys who form the vermin of our society, and who live in a constant state of war with all our best moral and intellectual interests. Not in all that period has there ever been much use in advocating anything before these Governors on grounds of humanity, decency, sound law, or social improvement. An African chief could hardly have been more deaf to the voice of the religious, moral, and industrious section of the community than these two Governors. Consequently, when we see Governor Morton calling to his assistance, on a question partly of law and partly of morality, the leading lawyers of the State, and settling it in accordance with their opinion, we get an agreeably increased sense of the value of our late victory. Its value in this city was incalculable, but the whole State will feel it in every nook and corner of the administration.

From the beginning of the police inquiry the fate of the guilty men at the head of and behind the system has hung upon the question, Will anybody confess? In every investigation into official rascality, in fact, the appearance of one who breaks down is regarded as marking the crisis. When he takes the stand, there is invariably a great rushing to cover of all the big and little rascals who have been fattening upon the system of government which he has decided to reveal. That he has not appeared sooner in the present inquiry has been a cause of general surprise. He was expected when the three police captains

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and several sergeants and wardmen were suspended by the Police Board. The provocation was great, but it was not quite sufficient. When, however, Capt. Stephenson was found guilty of a comparatively mild case of bribery, every guilty subordinate in the service saw yawning before him the doors of the penitentiary, and we have no doubt that, in the minds of a great many of them, the wisdom of confessing began to receive serious consideration. In all probability it was the fate of Stephenson which moved Capt. Creeden to make the full and pathetic confession which he laid before the Lexow committee on Friday.

It would have been difficult to find a more effective witness than Capt. Creeden. He is a veteran of the war, with a long and honorable record. He served for a quarter of a century on the police force, and tried three times in succession to obtain promotion on his merits, passing the civil-service examination with high ratings each time. He discovered that merit had nothing to do with the matter, and that he could obtain promotion only by paying cash for it. When he first began to consider cash payment, he could have obtained a captaincy for $6,000; but his hesitation cost him dearly, for prices went up in the meantime. When he had bargained for it at $12,000, a rival appeared and forced the price up to $15,000; and though he paid this sum with the understanding that he should have a precinct in which the opportunities for blackmail were so large that he could hope soon to get his money back again, the Police Board broke faith with him, and transferred him to a precinct which was almost barren of such opportunities. No one can read his confession and not be convinced that he is a victim of the system which the bi-partisan Police Board has been administering for the past thirty years.

The first direct evidence that some of the money collected by Tammany as the price of its government went to Croker in person was brought out by Mr. Goff on Thursday. The president of a towing company, who has contracts with the Street-Cleaning Department to tow garbage out to sea, testified that for several years he sent checks to Richard Croker in June and October of each year, as contributions to the expenses of Tammany's Fourth of July celebration and Tammany's election expenses. The usual amount was $50, but it was increased in one instance to $75 and in another to $150. He said he sent them to protect him in his contracts. When asked why he increased the amount to $150, he said the advisability of doing so was probably suggested to him, adding, "I compared notes with my friends, and it was suggested that we had better not get left, and I concluded to pay the increase." Of course Mr. Croker can say that these were contributions to political expenses, and not at all a personal tribute to himself, but the fact remains that they were paid by a city contractor who felt obliged to pay them in order to retain his contracts. If he, a comparatively small contractor, paid these sums, it is reasonable to suppose that all contractors were obliged to pay, and that the levy upon each was proportioned to the size of the contracts.

Sir John Thompson's sudden death may have an important effect upon the fate of the Canadian copyright act. He chiefly was responsible for its passage in 1889, and one of the objects of his journey to England was to induce the imperial Government to validate it. The despatches gave some account, two weeks ago, of the protests lodged with the Marquis of Ripon against the act. Representatives of the London Chamber of Commerce, the Society of Authors, and the Copyright Association went to the Colonial Office on November 26 to point out the harmful nature of the Canadian proposals touching copyright and reprints. These proposals, in brief, resemble our own law in making Canadian manufacture a requisite to Canadian copyright. The objections to such a law come, first, from the English publishers, who dislike to see a part of their business given over to Canadian houses; second, from English authors, who do not want to be pirated in Canada and smuggled into the United States; also from those who have international copyright at heart, and who say that Canada, having assented along with the other English colonies to the Berne agreement, has no right now to nullify it by special legislation. The interests of the United States are involved, furthermore, inasmuch as the privileges given in exchange for our copyright act were supposed to run throughout the British possessions. Mr. Bayard has, in fact, been instructed to ask the English Government what course they intend to adopt. We are in no position to cast a stone at Canada for carrying the principles of protection into the book business; yet what little advance towards decency we have made would no doubt be seriously imperilled by English assent to the Canadian act. It is to be hoped, therefore, that such assent will not be given, and that so a new argument will be furnished us to go the whole figure of the Berne agreement, in common with the rest of the civilized world.

The scenes in the Reichstag over the Socialist disrespect to the Emperor are evidently only the beginning of further trouble. If the men who have refused to stand up out of respect for him, and have even applied abusive epithets to him, could be tried and convicted of "lèse-majesté," they would go to jail quite cheerfully, and be regarded by their fellows as martyrs, and at the next election the Socialist vote would be largely increased. It is the steady increase of this vote, and the mutiny of the Socialist members of the Reichstag, which ought to excite most alarm among the ministry and at court. The notion that it can be kept down by repressive enactments is a chimera. They will only stimulate it. The Germans are just beginning to find out the difficulty, if not impossibility, of basing a feudal monarchy on universal suffrage and parliamentary institutions and a free press. They will know a great deal more about it in a very few years. The Emperor's theories of his own origin, rights, and powers should never have seen the light in a parliamentary country. In fact, they are ridiculous when put on paper in any country in Christendom in our day. They are doing much now to discredit hereditary monarchy. A few years ago, when the dread of France and Russia was greater than it is, it was considered rather fortunate to have a dashing young soldier at the head of the government. So it doubtless would have been if they could have got him to hold his tongue. But he is as loquacious as he is brave, and has a conceit of his own wisdom which is mercifully vouchsafed to but few men in power. The consequence is, that he rarely speaks without feeding the flame of discontent and insubordination under the name of socialism or radicalism. And the pity of it all is that his military value is still an unknown quantity.

The scandals attending the recent execution of an anarchist in Spain have at last brought about the suppression of these lamentable public spectacles. One cannot say that bull-fighting Spaniards, more than other meridionals, have any special horror of blood, and, though the punishment of the Barcelona bomb-thrower had some specially repulsive features, on the whole it was a less sickening sight than recent executions in France have been. The garrote never can be quite so horrible as the guillotine. The cabinet of Madrid, then, cannot have been led by any motives which the hardest head could deem sentimental in decreeing that henceforth the death penalty shall be inflicted only within prison walls, and in the presence of none save officers of the law and certain ecclesiastics. It has simply come to the conclusion that public executions do more harm than good; that the exemplary punishment which criminalists find necessary had best not be exemplified at noonday in the plaza; that the swagger of a murderer in the face of death shall no longer make a popular hero of him. It is a great pity that so rudimentary a reform as this is should not spread into France. There seems to be no immediate hope of it. A bill for the suppression of public executions passed the French Senate last spring, but was rejected by the Deputies. It was renewed at the present session, and has just been unfavorably reported upon. The new anti-anarchist law, however, makes executions of convicted anarchists private.

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THE PUNISHMENT OF DEBS.

JUDGE WOODS has sentenced Debs and his assistants to six and three months in jail, respectively, for their action in interfering with interstate commerce and disobeying the injunctions of the United States Circuit Court. This is a very mild punishment when we look at all the attending circumstances, the riots, the destruction of property, and the killing and maiming of human beings. But Debs and his assistants can be punished only for what they did, not for what others did, even though this was the consequence of the orders given by the chiefs of the American Railway Union. The imprisonment of these men even for a short time is a token of what society has in store for this class of offenders. It is not often that a judge has the courage to impose any heavier penalty than a fine on an offender who has not actually participated in train-wrecking, and of course a fine is immediately paid by a subscription, and amounts to no punishment at all. A term of six months in jail cannot be served vicariously; and even though Debs be considered a martyr by his friends and followers, the fact that he has been sentenced to jail by the law of the land will remain a stigma and a warning, both to him and to others. A second offence would not be treated so lightly.

The act of Congress under which Debs is convicted is the so-called anti-Trust law. It prohibits combinations and conspiracies to restrain or interfere with interstate commerce. It is very probable that Congress did not have in mind a conspiracy to stop interstate commerce altogether by tearing up tracks, "killing" locomotives, and overturning and setting fire to railroad cars, but fortunately it made the language of the law broad enough to cover such a conspiracy, thus:

> "Every contract, combination in form of trust or otherwise, *or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce*, in any Territory of the United States, or of the District of Columbia, or in restraint of trade or commerce between any such Territory and another, or between any such Territory or Territories and any State or States or the District of Columbia, or with foreign nations, or between the District of Columbia and any State or States or foreign nations, is hereby declared illegal. Every person who shall make any such contracts or engage in any such combination or conspiracy, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be punished by fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both said punishments in the discretion of the court."

Now, the judge says that even if this statute had been intended merely to prevent monopolies in trade, it is easy to see that other car companies might have conspired to prevent railroads from using Pullman cars, and might have directed their employees to uncouple such cars from trains already made up, in which case both they and their employees would have been guilty of conspiracy under the statute. "Will it be said," asks the judge, "that under this statute one who is not a capitalist may without criminality assist capitalists in doing things which on their part are criminal? If that be so, then if a capitalist and one who is not a capitalist join in doing things forbidden by this statute, neither can be punished, because one alone cannot be guilty of conspiracy." However that question may be answered, it is a settled principle of law that a statute is to be interpreted by its language when the language is clear. In the enactment of laws three separate branches of the Government are concerned, embracing 356 Representatives, 88 Senators, and one President. In the passing of an ordinary brief law like this one, usually not more than one-tenth of all the persons concerned tell what their understanding of the law is, or what they intended when they voted for it. Hence if the courts should attempt to find out *aliunde* what is meant by a law, they would be pretty sure to go wrong. They must interpret the law, not the *Congressional Record*.

Already the labor unions have begun to censure the court for its judgment in the Debs case. There is no constitutional or legal objection to such censure, but the whole affair shows what sort of a social and industrial state we should be in if organized labor could have its own way. Labor not organized may be, and in fact is, greater in numbers than organized labor. Labor not organized is persecuted more remorselessly by organized labor than the latter is by any machinery of the law. A few days ago a pair of walking-delegates in this city were indicted by the grand jury for preventing a number of carpenters from working at their trade, following them around from one job to another and causing them to be discharged every time they found a place. Therefore, when we say that society would be in a state of chaos if labor could have its own way, regardless of the courts of law, we mean labor as represented by Debs and the walking-delegate generally.

A report from Chicago says that at a meeting of the Trade and Labor Assembly on Saturday, Judge Woods was roundly denounced by the speakers, and that resolutions were passed against any increase of the army of the United States, such increase being considered "a menace to the interests of progressive individual liberty in the interest of the plutocratic millionaire classes." This means that when any mob seizes a railroad or all the railroads at any particular place, and stops the traffic upon which the whole nation subsists, there ought not to be any force at hand to disperse the rioters and to restore order. Here we have the usual walking-delegate view of government, and from it we can learn what sort of social state we should be in if there were no military force, and no courts courageous enough to put down the mob and send the leaders to jail. In every contest of this kind it turns out eventually that the rioters are a very small part of the community, and that when the machinery of the law gets in motion, they cease to be formidable. Debs will serve his time in jail, and his power when he comes out will be greatly curtailed.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL BILL.

ADVICES from Washington indicate that it is the purpose of the supporters of the Nicaragua Canal bill to press it through both houses of Congress, if possible, at the present session. This bill pledges the credit of the Government of the United States to the canal company, at the outset, to the extent of $70,000,000. The supporters of the project estimate the total cost of the canal at $87,799,570. It would require, however, either a large measure of credulity or a very strong bias to enable a man of average intelligence to believe that the work would ever be completed by or for the Government for that sum.

It is significant that the act of Congress of February 20, 1889, incorporating the "Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragua," to which it is now proposed to pledge the credit of the Government, while fixing the capital stock at $100,000,000, authorized its increase to $200,000,000. It also provided that the United States should not, by anything contained in the act of incorporation, be considered as committed "to any pecuniary liability whatever for or on account of said company." It turns out, however, that the act of incorporation was in the nature of an entering wedge; and it is now proposed that the United States shall assume a guarantee in order to enable the company to obtain funds. It is unnecessary to say that, if this guarantee should prove to be insufficient, the Government of the United States would be called upon to increase it. In a word, this Government is to be committed to the cost of the construction of the canal, whatever it may be.

In the report of the Senate committee on foreign relations, made at the last session of Congress, on the pending bill, it was stated that, when the Canal Company, after prosecuting part of the work, ran short of funds, "capitalists from Europe made propositions to the company, which are yet pending, to enter into an agreement for the completion of the canal on terms far more liberal to its present owners than any that have been offered by the United States"; and it was further stated that, "if action by Congress is delayed unreasonably," the company would be compelled either to abandon its concessions and lose the money already invested by it, or to accept the offer made "by the foreign capitalists." On this ground it was urged that Congress should act, in order that the canal may not be placed "under the control of a European government" or "in the power of European capitalists."

In this desire we cordially concur. The importance to the United States of an interoceanic waterway across the isthmus now separating the Atlantic from the Pacific Ocean, renders it impossible that this

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Government should be indifferent to the question of foreign control. If the construction of the canal by the United States were essential to the exclusion of such control, this Government would, in our opinion, be justified in incurring great pecuniary liabilities in order to avert such a result. But we are of opinion that it is possible to secure the absolute freedom of the canal from foreign control without the assumption by the United States of any pecuniary liability whatever. This fact, if it can be established, is especially worthy of consideration at the present time, when the condition and the prospects of our national finances are such that wise statesmanship would seem to forbid the assumption of any pecuniary liabilities that may be avoided, to say nothing of those that are wholly unnecessary.

The cry of "an American canal under American control" proceeds upon the theory that the Government of the United States ought to exercise an actual control over the canal and its use. This theory, if it is to be endowed with force and substance, involves the idea that the Government of the United States shall have the right, not only to fix the conditions on which the canal shall be used, but also to permit or to forbid its use to any other nation or all other nations, as circumstances may seem to require. It may be suggested that this idea is somewhat incompatible with the argument that the universal use of the canal will insure an ample return on all the capital that the United States may invest in it. We do not, however, lay any stress on this suggestion. It is, we assume, generally contemplated that the canal shall ordinarily be open to the commerce of all nations. But what we desire to make clear and to emphasize is, that the idea that the United States should assume, or seek to assume, a reserved power of exclusive control over the use of the canal, is both short-sighted and chimerical.

The great principle of the Roman law—the principle that navigable waters are common to all—though obscured during the Middle Ages, has to a great extent been re-established. In modern times, and especially since the period of the French Revolution, one international stream after another has been opened, till it may be said that the tendency to treat international waterways as highways of commerce has become irresistible. The considerations by which this result has been brought about would apply with tenfold force to a canal between the Atlantic and the Pacific. It would be in the largest sense an international highway, to which the world's commerce would at once be adjusted. The mere opening of such a highway to the use of the world would constitute an irrevocable dedication of it to that purpose. Instead, therefore, of attempting to exercise an exclusive control over the canal, the true policy of the United States, as well as of all other nations, is to neutralize it, by a general agreement that its use shall never be obstructed, either in war or in peace, and that it shall never be made the object or the theatre of hostilities. While such an agreement would insure its peaceful and open use at all times, the attempt of any power to control it would simply invite attack, and thus tend to self-destruction.

We do not doubt that, if the neutralization of the canal were effectively secured, private capital could be obtained for its economical construction, without exposing the treasury of the United States to indefinite liabilities or to any liability whatever. We do not doubt that an American company, acting under an American charter, and thus insuring the construction of the canal "under American auspices," could obtain ample funds at home and abroad for all the purposes of construction, if the leading nations of the world would now take the step which, if the canal is opened, they will be compelled to take sooner or later, of agreeing not to make it either the object or the theatre of hostilities.

ATHLETICS AND HEALTH.

In the recent discussion of football and of athletics in colleges, the relation of athletics to health and to the sedentary lives which most college graduates have to lead, has been strangely overlooked. The football champions have, as a rule, destroyed their influence by their extravagance. For instance, Prof. Richards of Yale, in Walter Camp's learned work on 'Football Facts and Figures,' says: "Personal encounters of some sort seem absolutely necessary to the education of young men, especially men of the strongest character. Such young men, judiciously trained, constitute the best citizens of the state, and a state full of such citizens becomes thereby safest to live in, for such men are its best defence." Dr. Shattuck of Boston, in like manner, defends football as providing us with national defenders on the battle-field in case the European Powers should attack us. These deliverances have also received a very solemn endorsement from "a captain, a most valuable player," in a class prayer-meeting, who is reported by Prof. Richards to have declared on that occasion "that the great success of the team the previous season was in his opinion due to the fact that among the team and substitutes there were so many praying men." So that not only is the game good as a preparation for war, but the Almighty takes a hand in it and sees that "the praying men" get most touchdowns and goals.

These gentlemen who regard football as a good preparation for service on the battle-field are apparently under the impression that war is still conducted in the old Homeric fashion; that is, that the combatants are ranged in line a few yards apart, and, after an exchange of bad language, "clinch" and "slug" each other as they roll over in the mud, each trying to stab the other with a spear or short sword, or hold him down till another man on the same side can break his back with a club. It is extraordinary that such ideas should prevail; that, within thirty years of our own civil conflict, people should think that a battle consists of personal encounters. Battles in our day, and more and more every year as weapons improve, are nearly all carried on and decided at long range. Assaults on the front of a well-armed enemy grow rarer and rarer, because the modern rifle fire sweeps everything away that gets within a thousand yards. In the Franco-German war whole regiments perished under fire from an enemy they never saw, and with smokeless powder this result is likely to be more and more frequent. What a soldier most needs in our day, therefore, is not agility or strength of muscle, but what we may call greatness of soul, a heroic spirit, a capacity to meet death and wounds calmly, and to see them all around him without flinching. The notion that a "centre rush" or a "half-back" is any better off under such conditions than a quiet student who has drunk deep "at the fountain of heavenly radiance," is too absurd for discussion. Let any one read the account of Prince André's adventures at the battle of Borodino in Tolstoi's 'War and Peace,' and he will understand what we mean.

But even if war were now Homeric, or even Greek or Roman—that is, carried on by means of personal collision, as it was down to the invention of gunpowder—the superiority of athletes for purposes of national defence would still be open to serious question. Pugilists are notoriously, in our time, not good soldiers. We believe no officer who cared to make a figure in a campaign would like to command a regiment of them. That any set of men can occupy themselves intently and continuously with the strengthening of their muscles and the improvement of their wind, as a preparation for extraordinary physical exertion, without damage to their mental and moral parts, is a chimera, and the people who are training up our young men in this belief have a good deal to answer for. What we need in our youths is the capacity for high resolve, and noble aims, and the firm courage which does not need to be stimulated by bets or gate-money.

Are we, then, opposed to athletics? By no means. We note with regret Dr. Sargent's complaint that, while football is all the rage, but little use is made of the fine gymnasium of Harvard College. This probably means that the rest of the college takes exercise in watching the football and other teams. College students, almost to a man, are intended to follow sedentary callings. They are not meant to punt, or tackle, or buck, or close with sword and shield, but to sit in counting-rooms or studies, or plead in courts. Their training at college, therefore, should in all respects fit them for these pursuits, and daily exercise

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is as necessary for the full and efficient discharge of these sedentary duties as for football, or baseball, or rowing. The men are rare indeed who can meet the demands of modern life in the pulpit, at the bar, or in the counting-room or editorial office, without a certain amount of physical exertion in the open air. Now and then there is a man who can do without this, or with very little of it, like Mr. Evarts, or Mr. Choate, or the late Mr. David Dudley Field; and such a man has a distinct advantage over his rivals in the same field. For most men, it is an absolute necessity, if they mean to do their work well, to be what the athletes call "fit," and able to stand the competition which is the law of modern life. But then the man who takes more than he needs, or who accustoms himself to conditions which are not general among his contemporaries also, weights himself in the race as much as the man who takes less than he needs. The young fellow who comes from college requiring three hours' daily exercise with dumb-bells, clubs, big stones and weights, of course, other things being equal, goes down before the young fellow who keeps in condition with an hour's walk or other exercise. If, too, he is so used to fresh air that one hour in a court-room muddles his brain or makes him feel faint, the other man who can stand three hours of it without damage has a distinct advantage over him, and will use it remorselessly.

No one can dip into the literature of football without seeing that it is treated throughout with an extravagance that borders on insanity. This is sure to pass: all crazes run their course. But it has done and is doing a great mischief in turning away the minds of the youth of the country from the value and necessity of moderate exercise. It has begot and is spreading the fallacy that if you are not a member of a team, and have no coach, it is not worth while doing anything to keep up your bodily vigor. It leads men to suppose that bodily vigor is of no great use unless you are going to play in a match, or to fetch and carry under the stern eye of a "captain." But the truth is that every lad in college is preparing for that greatest of all matches, the battle of life, in which he has to meet antagonists about whose strength and prowess he has no "tip," and who will surely "down" him unless he downs them. This is a battle, too, in which sound health and good spirits are of infinitely more importance than muscular strength, and in which ninety-nine men out of a hundred can make a respectable figure only by maintaining their physical vigor.

THE ENGLISH SITUATION.

In spite of all efforts on the part of the Conservatives to prevent it, the House of Lords has become the burning question of British politics, and there has hardly ever been such a scene of confusion as the discussion of the topic presents. This is due to a variety of causes. The Liberals say that they cannot get away from it, because there is no use in sending up to the House of Lords any of their reformatory measures as long as it is constituted as at present. To this some Conservatives answer that the country is satisfied with the House of Lords as it is at present, but others admit that it stands in serious need of change, and all, or nearly all, including Lord Salisbury, are committed, by some bygone speech, article, or motion, to this view. None of them can quite deny that it is a check only on *Liberal* rashness or impetuosity, and that it could not be relied on to block revolutionary schemes if they were produced by the Tories. There are, with regard to this, two cases in point which cannot be got over. One is the extension of the suffrage in 1867. No measure ever passed by the British Parliament was as likely as this one was to break down "the ancient and happy constitution" of the kingdom. It was sent up to the House of Lords by Gladstone, and was promptly rejected. It was sent up by Disraeli soon afterwards, and was promptly passed, in pursuance of a plan of Lord Derby for "dishing the Whigs." Another was the Gladstonian bill bringing the Irish lease-holders under the operation of the land act. As Gladstone's measure it was rejected; as Balfour's it was adopted by the Peers. To the argument that this is an intolerable situation for the Liberals, the only answer is that they are such dangerous men that anything that restrains them is good enough.

But the Liberals are not agreed among themselves as to what the change in the House of Lords should be, nor are those Tories who admit that it needs change. Lord Rosebery says he is a "second-chamber man"; that is, he thinks a second chamber of some kind indispensable, but he declines to say what kind of chamber this second chamber should be. Moreover, he calls on the party to give some idea of what it wants, thus revealing a state of mind which some people think very unsuitable in a leader. Mr. Asquith, on the other hand, apparently thinks England could get along very well with one chamber if it were put under certain restraints, while Labouchere and the Radicals represented by the *Daily Chronicle* want a single chamber without any restraints.

Sir William Harcourt, in the meantime, apparently sulks in his tent. He has not opened his mouth in the discussion, and is well known to be anything but pleased with the way Lord Rosebery is carrying it on. His disgust with the arrangement by which Lord Rosebery was made Premier over his head, on Mr. Gladstone's retirement, was not concealed. He has revenged himself by securing the passage of a masterly Radical budget, which has probably done more for his party than anything which has occurred since its return to power. But, this done, he retired to the country, and waited in silence for the further results of Lord Rosebery's much speaking. These results, if he is jealous of Rosebery, must be gratifying enough. There is no doubt that the Premier is steadily losing ground with his party and the country. This is admitted on all sides. He rarely makes a speech without revealing the fact that not only has he no settled policy, but no settled convictions on any subject. In asking the constituencies incessantly for instructions on the great questions of the day, he not only reveals his defects as a leader, but presents a contrast to his predecessor which troubles everybody, and, above all, those serious Non-conformists who constitute the bone and sinew of the Liberal party.

The consequence of all this confusion of opinion is that the problem, What is to be done with the House of Lords? does not make much progress towards solution. Two bye-elections—one in England and one in Scotland—recently won by the Conservatives, give some plausibility to the Tory contention that the majority wants the House of Lords let alone. But this, when examined closely, would really mean, if it were true, that the country did not desire to see the Liberal party ever in power again, for power is of no use to it as long as the Peers can veto its bills. So it has to be admitted that something must be done with the Lords. Lord Salisbury and Mr. Balfour, and Lord Rosebery, too, all point out that nothing can be done with it without its consent, unless by means of a revolution, and the extreme Radicals answer that they are ready for as much revolution as may be necessary for this purpose.

One plan is to exclude peremptorily, by the action of the Lords themselves, all peers of bad character, and strengthen the remainder by the election of life members. Another is to extinguish the hereditary principle in three generations, and then elect the peers who are to sit by the whole body of the peers. Another is to make up that House, in half at least, of elected notables from the ranks of war, literature, science, and commerce. But there is a curious objection, even among the Liberals, to making the second chamber too strong—that is, reforming it to such an extent that it would have such a hold on the country that it could effectively resist the Commons; so that every plan of improvement has to be examined under the theory that the second chamber, however respectable, must be kept subordinate. Mr. Bryce has propounded a plan, drawn from his American experience, which has apparently some merit—namely, enabling the Commons to override the Lords' veto by a two-thirds vote. But the objection, and probably fatal objection, to this is, that neither party, in the

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present condition of English politics, has, or is likely to have, a two-thirds vote in the Commons.

It would be a great mistake, however, to suppose that the discussion as carried on is simply a conflict of opposing opinions touching the best framework of government. It goes far deeper than this. In defending the Lords, the Conservatives are defending one of their outposts against the gathering forces of Radicalism, which are now attacking the old order in every department of politics. The county councils and the parish councils have dislodged the class which formerly ruled England from top to bottom, from some of the most potent seats of their influence, and the deepest uncertainty as to the effects of this change consequently pervades all classes of English society. The attack on the Lords is, therefore, looked on by the upper classes as an attempt, not to improve the machinery of legislation, but to complete that transformation of England into a pure democracy which the Radicals admit to be one of their aims.

LAST LETTERS OF BARON RICASOLI.

ITALY, November, 1894.

THE tenth and last volume of the letters and documents of Baron Bettino Ricasoli completes this important publication, and, with the six volumes of Cavour's letters, enables the student of modern Italian history to obtain thorough insight into the views, aims, and methods of those statesmen who, accepting the idea of Italian unity, which to them up to 1859 had seemed a mere Utopia, set themselves frankly and conscientiously to ordinate and establish that unity on a solid, durable foundation. The "iron baron" was a strange contrast to Cavour, yet was the only man who at the great statesman's death in 1861 could have carried out his home, foreign, and ecclesiastical policy. But his stern, unbending nature, the antipathy entertained for him by the French Emperor, the ambition of ex- and would-be ministers, together with court intrigues, rendered his position as prime minister untenable. He had consented to the "recall of the exile" Mazzini, consulted Garibaldi on national armament, openly affirmed the right of the people to form political associations and to hold public meetings; had sanctioned the petition signed by thousands in the various provinces for the withdrawal of the French troops from Rome. These and other measures won for him the support of the liberal members of the Chamber, the hostility of the moderates; and King Victor, in a bluff letter of March, 1862, expressed his doubt that "he possessed the confidence of the true majority of the House, for which it is not sufficient that you have obtained a favorable vote from the Extreme Left."

Ricasoli resigned, and wily Rattazzi succeeded. Sarnico and Aspromonte followed. Millions were squandered, debts incurred, yet Italy remained without an army or navy; the French Emperor became the real master of Italian affairs, the September convention and the transfer of the capital to Florence completing the general confusion. In 1866 the King, accepting the Prussian alliance and declaring war against Austria, again summoned Ricasoli to his councils, and he unwillingly accepted the office of Prime Minister and Home Secretary. The war terminated in quite other fashion than Ricasoli hoped; he was indignant at the cession of Venice by Austria to France at the evacuation of the Tyrol, but remained in office, hoping, now that the French troops had quitted Rome, to bring about that reconciliation between the Church and State which could be effected only by the abolition of the temporal power. This he, even as Cavour, fondly believed could be brought about with the consent of Pius the Ninth.

The ninth volume of his letters, and now the tenth, derive their chief interest from the history given of these efforts, which, unsuccessful then, must ever remain so, because, as Sella alone among Italian statesmen perceived and affirmed, "no pope would consent to be deprived of the temporal power, and, despoiled by violence, would never forgive or accept the olive branch from his despoilers." When Leo XIII. succeeded Pio Nono, the Liberals, new to power, really believed that they would be able to inaugurate the reign of conciliation, induce the new pontiff to bless the people in St. Peter's Square, and to acknowledge Humbert King of Italy. Sixteen years of strife and bitterness have proved the fallacy of these hopes; yet Italian statesmen, even those who scoffed at them in former times, still persevere, while the Vatican, accepting all concessions, taking advantage of every lull in vigilance to get possession of public education, of the communal administrations, yields not an iota, abates nothing of its hostility, loses no opportunity of encouraging and flattering any and all Continental Powers that may have a real or fancied grievance against Italy.

These volumes bear witness to the intense efforts made by Victor Emmanuel and Ricasoli to reconcile the "perfect liberty of the Church in spiritual matters with the perfect liberty of the State in mundane matters"; their concessions to the bishops and archbishops whom they hoped to win over to their cause. Many of these who had been, by former ministers, deprived of their sees on account of their hostility to the new order of things, were recalled; and from Rome the cardinal and bishops of Benevento, of Naples, and ten other archbishops and bishops, in a long letter thanking the minister for this act of justice, affirmed that the "divine code of the Catholic hierarchy enjoined on them to take no part in any conspiracy or expedition against a constituted government, the duty of submission and obedience in all that was not contrary to the laws of God and the Church." But the liberty promised does not suffice; they ask to be freed from all supervision by the Government, from all vigilance or interference.

"Ah, may the day soon dawn when Italy shall witness the magnificent and imposing religious spectacle which now rejoices the hearts of the free citizens of the United States of America. There, in Baltimore, more than forty bishops and archbishops, with mitred abbés, minor prelates, and priests, are met in a national council, according to the laws of the Church, without the necessity of demanding the permission either of the federal authorities or of any single State. After sending greetings and homage to the Supreme Pontiff, the immortal Pius IX., wishing him long life and *the preservation of all the rights of the Holy See*, they continue their discussions with unlimited liberty, without the least reserve, without having to offer any guarantee in virtue of any federal or local law. And when the resolutions of the Council shall have received the sanction of the Pope, they will be proclaimed in every city and hamlet, and executed by the spiritual authorities without *exequatur* or *placito*. Ah, yes! this is the 'perfect liberty of the Church' which we reclaim."

Ricasoli's answer is an admirable compendium of Church history in the Old World and in the New:

"The Government would be only too happy to abandon suspicion and precaution; and if to-day it dare not yet do this, it is because the principle of liberty which it preaches and also practises is not admitted or put in practice by the clergy. The conditions of the Church in Europe and in America are totally different. In those virgin regions the Church was established in a new society, which, however, brought with it from the mother country all the elements of civil association, and represented the purest and most sacred of social elements, the religious sentiment which sanctions right and sanctifies duty, uniting human aspirations in an idea loftier than all mundane things. The only empire there sought by the Church is that most pleasing to God, the empire over souls. Brought in by liberty and flourishing under liberty's wing, the Church found all that was needful for its free development, for the calm and fruitful exercise of its ministry. There the Church has never sought to deny to others the liberty it claims for itself; never attempted to appropriate for its own exclusive benefit the institutions which protected it. In Europe, on the contrary, the Church arose on the ruins of the great empire which had subjugated every land; it was constituted amid the political and social cataclysms of the dark ages, and was compelled to create an organization sufficiently strong to save civilization from wreck; this in the midst of brute force and violence."

"But when Europe, emerged from the chaos of the Middle Ages, reëntered on the path of progress assigned to it by Providence, then the Church enjoined on all subject to her the immobility of the dogma of which she is the guardian; regarded with suspicion the development of intelligence, the multiplication of social forces; declared herself the enemy of all liberty, denying that supreme of all, the liberty of conscience. Hence the conflict between the ecclesiastical and the civil authority, because the former represented subjection and immobility; the latter, liberty and progress. This conflict, owing to peculiar conditions, assumed the most serious proportions in Italy, where the Church, deeming that, for the exercise of her spiritual ministry independently of all lay authority, a temporal dominion was necessary, here obtained and exercised temporal power. And in Italy now the Church finds itself not only in conflict with the civil authorities, but also with National Right.

"This is the origin of the distrust and precautions alluded to in my circular, and which your reverences regard as injurious, whereas they are but the result of necessity. With us, bishops cannot be regarded as merely spiritual pastors, because they are at the same time the champions and instruments of a power which is opposed to national aspirations; hence the civil authority is compelled to subject them to such measures as are necessary to preserve its rights and those of the nation."

During this his second ministry Ricasoli was heartily supported by Victor Emmanuel, who had learned to appreciate his sterling worth, his devotion to Italy and to the dynasty. When his bill for regulating the relations between Church and State and the conversion of ecclesiastical property was rejected by the Chamber of Deputies, the King wrote:

"DEAR BARON AND COUSIN: I have seen for some time past that the Chamber does not fulfil the high mission confided to it by the nation. Yesterday's vote does not surprise me, but it is my duty on this occasion to assure you how entirely I have approved and approve your conduct and that of the entire cabinet. I refuse to accept your resignation. There are means to save the nation and insure its prosperity. To-morrow we will discuss them.

"Your affectionate cousin and friend,

"VICTOR EMMANUEL."

The House was dissolved, but the electors sent back members more hostile still to the Government. No minister of finance could be

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found to fill the place of Scialoja. The King writes to Ricasoli :

"I have failed ! Amari, urged, almost maltreated by me (*ragi nato, quasi assassinato da me*), refuses absolutely, and leaves it to me to inform you of his refusal. This dear Italy cost blood and sweat to make it; now it seems that the Italians are prepared to bleed and sweat to unmake it. But I swear before God that I will not be the instrument of its destruction."

It was his wish that Ricasoli should accept Rattazzi, but Ricasoli could not consent to this. Seeing that the country was on the verge of bankruptcy, he offered the King the alternative of accepting Sella for finance minister, Depretis for home minister, or the resignation of the entire cabinet. The King, in a long letter, gives his reasons for objecting to Sella's financial programme :

"I cannot belie the promises made in my last speech, which was concerted with you and the entire cabinet, and received favorably by the nation. Still less can I accept a programme which, in our present conditions, proposes to augment taxation and to introduce the tax which, rightly or wrongly, is the most odious of all [the grist tax], and would arouse such general discontent that none of us could foretell the consequences."

Hence he accepts the resignation of the entire cabinet, and summons his "fido" Rattazzi; Mentona and the second occupation of Rome by the French troops following the "letting I dare not wait upon I would" of that ill-fated minister.

After this second attempt, Ricasoli declined ever afterwards to head or form part of an Italian ministry, but for some time he continued his active correspondence with the chief political men of the day, and to the last his relations with the King were cordial. Once Rome proclaimed capital of United Italy, he lent himself to the establishment of a *modus vivendi* between the Vatican and the Quirinal —as usual without success; and the law on papal guarantees embodies many of his propositions. He declined the Speakership of the House of Deputies, and refused to head the Moderate party in the House.

"I shall work with that party as far as my conscience permits, but as a private individual, a simple soldier. Certainly I shall not attempt to lead men who slip through your fingers like eels, who don't remember to-day the promises made yesterday, who chatter too much and think too little, and hence are never true or constant in any undertaking."

Consulted as to the proposed increase of the salary of civil servants, he wrote :

"The Government ought to take its stand on morality, discipline, order, economy, work ; and those in high places ought to set a practical example. Italy spends too much and spends wastefully Her servants are badly paid, I admit, but they don't even earn their scant wages The aversion to work of any kind is the pest of the present day in Italy Not only the servants of the State, but those of the provinces and the communes, do as little work as they can, and do that badly; inertia and indiscipline everywhere prevail, fruits of the low state of morality, the absence of all sense of human dignity."

Towards the end of the reign of the Moderate party his strictures on their tactics, their dissensions, their petty vanities, and miserable rivalry became more and more severe, yet he deprecated the advent of the Liberals to power. When, however, that came to pass, in 1876, Ricasoli offered no factious opposition, joined no coalition for their overthrow, and on his death in 1880 was truly mourned for in Florence; all Italy rendering homage to the integrity of his character, to his entire abnegation, his single devotion to Italy, one and free.

We have taken together the last two volumes of this valuable series of letters and documents, which refers to the years from 1866 to 1880. The editors and annotators of these ten volumes—Marco Tabarrini and Aurelio Gotti—have done their work admirably, and the preface to each volume gives an excellent summary of the events to which each series of letters refers. J. W. M.

PRINCE EUGENE.

PARIS, December 6, 1894.

IT is a pity that an interesting and serious book should have a foolish title. Was it necessary, in order to catch the eye of the public in the bookseller's window, to give to the life of such an important personage as Prince Eugene, the stepson of Napoleon, the Viceroy of Italy, the hero of the retreat from Russia, this title: 'Une idylle sous Napoléon I.—Le Roman du Prince Eugène'? No historical work appears nowadays without a portrait. I can forgive the frontispiece portrait of Prince Eugene, wrapped up in his military cloak, and his hand on a magnificent Turkish sword, from the original painting at the Castle of Arenenberg—a fine military face, with a large forehead, thoughtful eyes, an expression of kindness and of honesty.

This book on Prince Eugene was evidently inspired by the passion which is now felt for all that relates to the First Empire. The author, M. Albert Pulitzer, tells us that in glancing accidentally over the memoirs and correspondence of Prince Eugene, published about forty years ago by A. du Casse, in ten octavo volumes, he read, with real pleasure, the letters addressed by the Prince to his wife, a royal princess of Bavaria, considered one of the prettiest persons of her time. These letters were written during the great Napoleonic era. M. Pulitzer regards them "as one of the most charming love novels of which history offers us an example." He is kind enough to give us also a portrait of the Princess, who is dressed very much in the style of the present day, since fashions are moving in a circle; and she certainly has an interesting face, though it could hardly be called handsome. The original portrait is at the royal castle of Drottningholm.

Josephine Tascher de la Pagerie, born at Martinique, was hardly fourteen years old when she was married to Viscount de Beauharnais. Her son Eugene was born September 3, 1781; he was thirteen years old when his father, after an unfortunate campaign on the Rhine, was arrested and guillotined; he was himself, according to the ideas of the period, placed as an apprentice with a cabinet-maker; his sister, Hortense, the future Queen of Holland, had to work at a dressmaker's. After the Terror, Eugene entered the Army, and when his mother married Gen. Bonaparte in 1796, he followed his father-in-law to Italy as sub-lieutenant of hussars. He became an aide-de-camp of the general; after the 18th Brumaire he became captain in the consular guard. His advancement was rapid—to colonel in 1802, brigadier in 1804, at the age of twenty-two. Bonaparte himself had been brigadier only at twenty-four.

After the proclamation of the Empire, Napoleon sent him to Italy, giving him the dignity of Archchancellor of State, and making him a Serene Highness. After having crowned himself at Milan as King of Italy on the 26th of May, 1805, Napoleon conferred on Eugene, on the 5th of June, the viceroyalty. The Viceroy was but twenty-four years old : he was Napoleon's favorite:

"Brought up," Napoleon wrote to the Senate, "by our care and under our eyes since his infancy, he has become worthy of imitating and, with the help of God, of surpassing some day the examples and the lessons which we have given him. Though still young, we consider him, from the experience we have had of him on the most important occasions, one of the pillars of our throne and one of the most capable defenders of the country. In the midst of the cares and bitterness inseparable from the high rank in which we are placed, our heart needs to find mild affections in the tenderness and the constant friendship of this child of our adoption."

During the campaign of 1805 against Austria, Eugene rendered great service to Napoleon; he organized and increased considerably the Italian army. It was not easy always to please Napoleon, who would have his authority felt in the most minute details—so much so that Duroc could write to Eugene: "To speak of the smallest thing: if you ask his Majesty for his order or advice to change the ceiling of your room, you must wait for it; and, if Milan were burning and you asked him for means to extinguish the fire, you must let it burn and wait for your orders." Was this irony or susceptibility? We find the same note in all the correspondence of Napoleon with his brothers; but his brothers were unruly, while Eugene was thoroughly disciplined and anxious to do his duty.

The treaty of Presburg had changed the Electorate of Bavaria into a kingdom and allotted Tyrol to Bavaria. Napoleon, stopping for a few days at Munich with Maximilian Joseph, whom he had just made King, asked for the hand of the Princess Augusta of Bavaria for Prince Eugene. The Princess was engaged to her cousin, Charles of Baden—but could anything be refused to the hero of Marengo and Austerlitz? Princess Augusta had to submit to the will of her father. Eugene was at Milan and ignorant of what was going on at Munich. He received this letter from Napoleon: "My Cousin: I have arrived at Munich. I have arranged your marriage with the Princess Augusta; it has been made public. This morning the Princess paid me a visit, and I have had a long conversation with her. She is very pretty. You will find with this message her portrait, on a cup, but she is much better-looking." Three days afterwards he received the order to come at once to Munich. The marriage was celebrated with great pomp on the 14th of January, 1806; forty-eight hours after the marriage Napoleon recognized Eugene as his adopted son, and gave him the name of Eugène Napoléon de France. He ceased from this moment to address him as "mon cousin," and addressed him as "mon fils."

The Princess Augusta, though she became a bride by necessity, was not long in recognizing the sterling qualities of her husband. Eugene soon felt, himself, a strong affection for his wife, who deserved it in every respect. He fulfilled his duties of Viceroy with much intelligence and won the affection of the Italians. He could take no part in the campaign which brought Napoleon to Berlin. Napoleon wrote to him, on this occasion, this laconic despatch: "My Son : The army of the King of Prussia exists no longer. All there was of it at Jena (160,000 men) has been killed, wounded, or taken prisoner ; not a man has crossed the Oder. I am master of Spandau, of Stettin. My troops are on the confines of Poland. The King of Prussia has crossed the Vistula : he has not 10,000 men left. I am rather pleased with the inhabitants of Berlin."

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Eugene had his part to play in the campaign of 1809. The Italian army was mobilized and entered Hungary, and Eugene won a victory at Raab. When the peace was signed, he was occupied in pacifying Tyrol. He showed much humanity in this difficult task, and, admiring the courage of Andreas Hofer, he was desirous to save his life, when he received this order from Napoleon: "My Son: I asked you to send Hofer to Paris; but, since he is in Mantua, give orders to form at once a military commission to try him and to have him shot where he is. Let all this be the affair of twenty-four hours."

The divorce of Napoleon and Josephine was a great trial for Eugene, fond as he was of his mother and devoted at the same time to his stepfather. The incidents attending this event are well known. Napoleon summoned Eugene to Paris, and explained to him the reasons which had induced him to separate himself from a wife who could give him no heir. Eugene saw at once that a prompt solution was necessary; he offered to give up the viceroyalty of Italy and to remain with Josephine—to follow her, if necessary, to Martinique. The great sacrifice was consummated in the great cabinet of the Tuileries: Josephine gave her consent to the divorce in the presence of Napoleon, of King Louis, of King Jerome, of King Murat, of the Queens of Spain, Naples, Holland, Westphalia, of Napoleon's mother, of his sister Pauline, and of Prince Eugene. After an absence of two months, Eugene returned to Milan; he was hardly arrived when Napoleon wrote to him that he was going to marry the Archduchess Maria Louisa, and ordered him to return for the ceremonies of the betrothal and marriage.

He left for Paris with his wife, and while he was there the throne of Sweden was offered to him; he refused it, and it fell to the lot of Marshal Bernadotte. There was some question, also, of offering to Eugene the throne of a reconstituted Poland, but Eugene was determined to refuse it if it was offered. The great campaign against Russia was already in preparation. At the beginning of 1812, Eugene received in the Grand Army the command of the fourth corps, composed of Italians, and of the sixth corps, composed of Bavarians, 80,000 men in all. He left Italy on the 16th of February, and crossed the Brenner. Some people thought that the reason of a new war was the desire of Napoleon to punish the Russians by the reëstablishment of Poland, which would be given to Eugene. In a letter addressed to La Valette, his friend, Eugene says: "My fate is decided. I have a splendid command. . . . One thing does not make me laugh: it is the idea that my humble person should be destined to Poland. This rumor has been spread and it pains me. . . . I have no ambition for a throne." Eugene's conduct during the campaign in Russia was above all praise; he showed the highest military capacity, and a fortitude in the fatal retreat which was truly heroic. He wrote almost every day a few lines to his wife, always trying to reassure her and to give her as little anxiety as possible. The series of these short letters is a graphic and realistic history of this terrible campaign, which was fought against the elements as much as against man.

Eugene played a very important part in the famous battle of the Moskva; he took and held Borodino the whole day. He stormed the famous redoubt where so many men found their death. What simplicity in this letter, written after the battle, on the battle-field, on the 8th of September, 1812: "Two words only, my dearest Augusta, to say all is well with me. We had yesterday a great battle, very hot, and glorious for the Emperor. I commanded our left, and we did our duty." From Moscow, after the great fire, he writes on the 1st of October: "There is some thought now of spending the winter here. . . . The Emperor has sent to Paris for actors, and has asked me to get singers from Milan." The Emperor feigned not long to prepare winter quarters in Moscow; he still hoped to procure terms of peace from Alexander. When all hope of peace was given up, he thought of leading his army to St. Petersburg; but the opposition of the marshals was such that he resolved finally and very reluctantly to retreat.

What this retreat was has been often told. Eugene had for his part a brilliant combat at Malo-Yaroslavetz; with 20,000 men he fought successfully against 80,000. He had to fight again at Krasnoi; he was at the rear with Ney, and found himself so long separated from him that he thought for a moment that Ney was lost. "The danger was immense," writes Constant in his memoirs; "the guns of Prince Eugene gave a signal understood by the marshal, who answered with *feux de peloton*. The two corps met. Marshal Ney and Prince Eugene threw themselves in each other's arms; the latter wept with joy. Then came the battle and the terrible crossing of the Beresina. The remains of what was the Grand Army arrived on the 5th of December at Smorgoni. Napoleon assembled all his chiefs of corps and announced his immediate departure for Paris; he had to cross the whole of Germany and to organize new armies in France. He left the supreme command to King Murat. Prince Eugene had great repugnance to being under Murat's orders, but he submitted and did his duty to the last. Murat announced suddenly to Eugene on the 17th of January that he was to set off at once for Naples, leaving the army under his orders. Eugene took command on condition that the Emperor should confirm him in it. Napoleon wrote to him: "I view with pleasure the command of the army in your hands. I find the conduct of the King very extravagant, and such that I could almost have him arrested as an example. He is a good man on the battle-field, but he is wanting in moral courage."

Correspondence.

THE SAUPPE COLLECTION AT BRYN MAWR.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Your readers will remember a letter of October 23, 1893, drawing attention to the fact that the philological library of the late Prof. Hermann Sauppe of Göttingen was for sale. Through the munificence of Miss Mary E. Garrett of Baltimore this library was purchased for Bryn Mawr College, and thus another of the collections of great German scholars has found its way to this side of the Atlantic, in all respects equal, in many points superior, to most of its predecessors. I have thought that it might be of interest to scholars and colleges in the United States to know in what lines this library is especially strong.

The private catalogue, in Prof. Sauppe's own handwriting, includes between 8,000 and 9,000 numbers. To these must be added a large collection of unbound books, periodicals, and pamphlets; and upwards of 7,000 dissertations, which had been accumulating under his hands for nearly fifty years. More than two-thirds of the books, and almost all the dissertations, are in the field of Classical Philology and related subjects; the remaining books have to do with modern literature, especially German, and with history.

The cataloguing of this large collection cannot be completed for some time, but it has proceeded far enough to enable us to get some idea of the range of the library. It is especially rich in earlier editions of the classical authors, some from the fifteenth, a large number from the sixteenth century—works invaluable to the student of the historical development of philological research or to the patient investigator in textual criticism. There is a good collection of Alduses and Elzevirs, and all the other well-known presses of the period are well represented. In such an abundance it is not easy to specify, but reference may be made to the Mainz edition of Livy, the Froben edition of Tacitus, the Cruquius edition of Horace, the Basel editions of Thucydides, Herodotus, Isocrates, Plato, and Plutarch, and many others, in addition to the gem of the collection, the Hermolaus edition of Plautus, which is supposed to exist in but four copies. In the authors to which Prof. Sauppe devoted especial attention, such as Plautus, Horace, Tacitus, Homer, Plato, and the Orators, particularly Demosthenes, the library is very complete.

Prof. Sauppe was about the last representative of the encyclopædic school of classical philology. His interest extended to all subjects, and his lectures covered a wide field. Thus, in addition to his studies in the particular authors mentioned, he gave considerable attention to the history of philology, to hermeneutics and criticism, to archæology, and to inscriptions. All these subjects are well represented in his library, and in inscriptions it is especially full. Among many important works may be mentioned the complete Ἐφημερὶς ἀρχαιολογική at present so difficult to obtain, the last missing numbers of which Prof. Sauppe is said to have discovered in a journey through Greece.

Students of German literature will be interested in the Goethe collection. Prof. Sauppe was director of the gymnasium at Weimar in his earlier years, and lived in friendly association with the family of the Duke of Weimar, with Goethe's grandsons, and with such men as Koehler, Schoell, Liszt, Hirzel. It was during this period that the greater part of the Goethe collection was brought together. It consists of several hundred volumes, including first or early editions of many of Goethe's works, most of the collections of his correspondence, and many books and pamphlets concerning his life and works, some of them very rare. Closely allied are a number of books either by or on Goethe's contemporaries, such as Herder and Schiller.—Respectfully yours,

Gonzalez Lodge.

Bryn Mawr College, December 4, 1894.

FEDERAL AND CONFEDERATE FORCES.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Your issue of November 15 contains a criticism of my Life of General Lee. Without going into the question of General Lee's opinion on the question of secession, except to say that if he thought secession was treason and secessionists traitors, he would never have been found fighting on the Southern side during the war, I want to say that when your critic says that the Southern army at Sharpsburg was nearly 60,000 and at Gettysburg nearly 80,000, he is giving his figures in the

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face of the official reports of army commanders, whose reports in turn are made up from those of their subordinates. For instance, you will find that General Lee's report of his battle at Sharpsburg says that he had less than 40,000 men present. (See ser. 1st, vol. 19, part 1, page 151, War Records.) General Lee told me that he fought the battle with 35,000 men. There can be nothing doubtful about his statements.—Very truly yours,

FITZHUGH LEE.

GLASGOW, VA., December 7, 1894.

[We regret that we cannot print at full length the computation accompanying the above letter submitted for our private convincement. We shall cite from it candidly in what we have to say, and our readers will at least get a glimpse of the difference in the two methods of reckoning the strength of hostile armies in the civil war.

The Confederate report of September 22, 1862, so close after the battle of the 16th and 17th, is found in the 'Official Records,' vol. xix., pt. 2, p. 621, and the tabulation is there given by divisions. A note on the *original return* is there copied in these words, viz.: "This return is very imperfect, the cavalry and reserve artillery not being reported." This sends us to the nearest official return of the cavalry and reserve artillery, the former of which we find on page 660, the latter on page 639, of the same volume. These are the official statistical returns made by the commanders thrice a month to the adjutant-general at Richmond. They are supported by the detailed reports downward to companies, though condensed by divisions in the tables quoted. They are the *only* reports made officially *as statistics* at the time. The killed and wounded are found in the report of the medical director of Lee's army on pp. 810-813 of 'Official Records,' xix., part 1. The missing have to be collected from the numerous division and brigade reports, and these are found conveniently analyzed and tabulated in 'Battles and Leaders of the Civil War,' ii., 603. The missing numbered 2,304. Our only reconstruction of tables is to bring these official statistics together.

What, then, is the character of the material by which Gen. Fitzhugh Lee seeks to contradict these formal and official statistics? We are obliged to repeat that an examination shows that they are the "vague estimates" which they are called in the review.

Let us illustrate by an example or two. Gen. D. H. Hill's division is given by Gen. Fitzhugh Lee as numbering 3,000, and page 1022 of the first part of the nineteenth volume is referred to. Turning to it, we find that it is Gen. Hill's report of his part in the battle, full of extravagances. He says on page 1026 that "the battle [Antietam] was fought with less than 30,000 men." Is this official? Quite as much so as some of the other figures. He says on p. 1022, "My ranks had been diminished by some additional straggling, and on the morning of the 17th I had but 3,000 infantry." These are the figures which Gen. Fitzhugh Lee uses in preference to Hill's own official statistical report to the adjutant-general made four days after the battle. The round numbers show that it does not pretend to accuracy. Let us test it a little. On p. 1026 he appends a detailed list of his casualties, including South Mountain, and they amount to 3,241, or 241 more than his whole division at the beginning of the battle of Antietam! His statistical return to the adjutant-general on September 22 reported 5,071 as the effective force of officers and men then present for duty—a quick resurrection of the annihilated division! It is not pretended that he had received any reinforcements. His killed and wounded he reported at 2,316, and, adding these to the number present after the battle, it is proved that he had at least 7,387 on the 13th of September, leaving out his "missing" and treating all of them as stragglers. The corrected returns of the medical director make an even stronger showing to the same effect.

But this is not all. Gen. R. H. Anderson's division reported to Hill during the battle, and the latter says (p. 1023) that Anderson had "3,000 or 4,000 men." Gen. Fitzhugh Lee therefore puts Anderson down at 3,500, splitting the difference, and taking Hill's "vague estimate." This he calls an official report of numbers, in preference to accepting Anderson's own statistical report to the adjutant-general of September 22, which was that which we used, and which returns the effective force of officers and men present for duty in his division at 5,324 after the battle! The killed and wounded were 1,021, and the true number at the beginning was therefore 6,345, not counting the missing.

Another example taken at random is of the "Stonewall" division, Jackson's own. J. R. Jones, in command of it, says (p. 1008 of volume last quoted) that, "not numbering over 1,600 men at the beginning of the fight," it was obliged to fall back; and these round numbers Gen. Fitzhugh Lee gives as "official" in preference to the statistical report of the division to the adjutant-general just after the battle, in which the figures are 2,553 effective officers and men. Jones says of his losses (*ibid.*) that they amounted "to about 700 killed and wounded." He says nothing of any missing. Add the 700 to the 2,553 remaining after the battle, and we have at its beginning 3,253 instead of 1,600, or more than twice as many! If we had space, we could continue this comparison to any extent.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee must pardon us for saying that these examples of the way in which he made up his figures are exactly what we had in mind when criticising his book, and that his tables and references demonstrate the truth of the criticism. But he says Gen. R. E. Lee told him in conversation that he fought the battle with 35,000 men, and "there can be nothing doubtful about his statements." The answer is that Gen. R. E. Lee told the adjutant-general at Richmond in his formal, written, statistical returns, made upon his honor as an officer and for the exact purpose of having "official" figures, what we have given above.

There was a great deal of vague talk and apologetic reporting on both sides; but everybody who knows anything of the army methods knows that it is to confess one's case away when, on a question of figures, a disputant "fights shy" of the adjutant-general's tri-monthly returns. He puts himself in the place of the Western man who claimed that his booming town had 50,000 inhabitants, "reckoned any way you please but by a square count."

Stragglers are not reported on either side, and the absent make no part of any official tables of the present. Commanders are held responsible for the numbers shown "present for duty," and straggling is only one form of running away. But the thing becomes ridiculous when, in estimating opposing forces, we are told that half of one army is to be omitted on the plea that the men straggled, but none of their opponents.

We have to add that, as the battles of South Mountain and Antietam occurred with only two days between, the reports are not always distinct as to the casualties in each, and we are forced to use the aggregate. This is why we speak of the two engagements together and make our dates of comparison the 13th and 22d of September.

As our statement that Lee had at Gettysburg nearly 80,000 men has also been challenged, we will add a briefer synopsis of the authority for it, premising only that it is supported quite as conclusively as the other. An abstract of the forces engaged at Gettysburg was carefully prepared by Col. Robert Scott, head of the bureau of archives at Washington, for 'Battles and Leaders of the Civil War,' and will be found in vol. iii., p. 440, of that book. Further investigation shows that some of Lee's forces were still omitted, and that the total was about 3,000 larger than the figures which we give. The same, except the "net gain by reinforcements," will be found in Lee's official returns for May (the nearest return preserved), 'Official Records,' xxv., part 2, pp. 845, 846. We take our figures from the last-named original authority, and Lee's effective force is thus shown to be as follows, viz:

Lee and staff	17
Longstreet's corps	29,171
A. P. Hill's corps	30,277
Cavalry	10,292
Artillery (Alexander's and Garnett's battalions omitted)	4,702
Artillery, above two battalions	800
Net gain by reinforcements	2,250
	77,509

—ED. NATION.]

THE GREEK OF IT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The letter in your last issue which gives the percentage of Spartan over Athenian victors in the Olympian games suggests an interesting comparison. In a lecture on Yale

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football given here this week, the speaker mentioned the advice given by alumni and coaches to the Yale team before a game with Harvard—"Die in your tracks, but win the game." This brings a reminiscence of the maternal Spartan and the shield. Such training may well produce good soldiers.

Considering Harvard's roll of poets, philosophers, scholars, and men of affairs, may not her culture be deemed more typically Athenian than Spartan? In following out this comparison, a perusal of the college magazines of each institution is of interest in showing difference of attitude and ideal.

Very respectfully, M.

POUGHKEEPSIE, December 11, 1894.

BURNING FROUDE'S 'NEMESIS OF FAITH.'

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The following contemporary account of what occurred at Oxford is from the *Prospective Review*, vol. v., p. 163 (1849), a review edited by such careful and responsible men as the Rev. James Martineau, Rev. J. J. Tayler, and the Rev. Dr. Wicksteed:

"Our readers probably know, yet it may not be amiss here to put on record, the reception given to the 'Nemesis of Faith' at Oxford. The Head and Fellows of Exeter College, regarding the offence committed by Mr. Froude, in publishing it, to justify and call for an extreme stretch of power on their part, threatened him with absolute and public expulsion if he did not voluntarily resign his Fellowship before the evening closed. In what way the threat operated we are not competent to explain; but it is certain that in consequence he did resign. His book was solemnly committed to the flames in the Public Hall of the College by the hand of the Senior Tutor, who, if we are rightly informed, made a funeral speech over it." MONCURE D. CONWAY.

SPINSTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In looking over old deeds I have found the word *spinster* used with a meaning unknown to me. I first found it designating an unmarried widow, then describing a wife, as in the following instances:

James and Abigail Verry of Norton, deed land, March 10, 1800, to Elizabeth Wiswall, *wife of Elijah*, of Norton, *Spinster*. (*Bristol County, Mass., Deeds.*)

Asa Hodges, yeoman, and Priscilla Hodges [*his wife*], *Spinster*, deed land, in Douglass, Feb. 9, 1785. (*Worcester County, Mass., Deeds.*)

Can you enlighten me as to the use and meaning of the word? If a survival of the original meaning, was this common in New England in the last century and the beginning of this century? A. D. H., JR.

Notes.

MR. JOHN T. MORSE, JR., has been engaged to prepare the authorized Life and Letters of the late Dr. O. W. Holmes.

A new and revised edition of Mr. Austin Dobson's complete poems, from new plates, is announced by Dodd, Mead & Co. It will be adorned by a portrait of the poet etched from life by Mr. William Strang, one of the boldest of contemporary British etchers. This edition will also contain seven etchings by M. Adolphe Lalauze, suggested by the Oriental and Gallic verses of the British poet, and avoiding such of Mr. Dobson's poems as Mr. Thomson and Mr. Partridge have already illustrated. The same firm have in hand 'Thomas Hardy,' the initial volume of a new series of "Contemporary Writers," edited by Dr. W. Robertson Nicoll, the author in the present instance being Mrs. Annie Macdonell; 'Corrected Impressions,' by George Saintsbury; 'The Women of the United States,' from the French of C. de Varigny; an illustrated work on China by the Hon. Chester Holcombe, an official resident of that country for seventeen years; and a series of handbooks on athletics.

Additional announcements from Macmillan & Co. are: 'The Principles of Sociology,' by Prof. Franklin H. Giddings of Columbia College; a work for secondary schools on the English Language, by Prof. Oliver F. Emerson of Cornell; 'The Confession of Faith of a Man of Science,' by Dr. Ernst Haeckel; 'Life at the Zoo,' by C. J. Cornish; a "Social England" series, edited by Kenelm D. Cotes, M.A., Oxon.; a 'Local History of Phrygia,' by Prof. W. B. Ramsay, vol. i. relating to the Lycos Valley and the extreme southwestern parts of the country; and new editions of Kidd's 'Social Evolution,' Stephen's 'Digest of the Criminal Law,' and Sylvanus Thompson's 'Electricity and Magnetism.'

Dr. Daniel G. Brinton, professor of American archæology in the University of Pennsylvania, has in press a 'Primer of Mayan Hieroglyphics,' in which he endeavors to interpret the mysterious writing on the monuments of Central America. Ginn & Co. will be the publishers.

An 'Inductive Course in Physics for Grammar Schools,' by F. H. Bailey, is to be issued by D. C. Heath & Co., Boston.

Messrs. Keppler & Schwarzmann will publish immediately Mr. H. C. Bunner's new volume of very short stories, entitled 'More Short Sixes,' illustrated by C. J. Taylor.

Mr. William Archer has nearly finished the English translation of Ibsen's new play, and it will be published in England by Mr. Heinemann and in America by Stone & Kimball simultaneously with the appearance of the Scandinavian original.

Mr. George A. Aitken, whose standard Lives of Steele and Arbuthnot have brought him reputation early in life, is now preparing for Dent, London, an edition of Defoe's works of fiction. It is to be in 16 dainty volumes, similar to Dent's edition of Miss Austen's works. It may have been observed that Mr. Wright, the biographer of Cowper, has dedicated his recently published Life of Defoe to Mr. Aitken.

The first volume of Mr. Vere L. Oliver's 'Genealogical History of the Island of Antigua,' West Indies, has been completed, and will shortly be issued to subscribers. The second volume will contain a continuation of the pedigrees, together with a large quantity of miscellaneous records of the Leeward Islands. A correspondent informs us that Mr. Oliver, who is a gentleman of fortune living at Sunninghill, Berkshire, England, is anxious to start a *West-Indian Notes and Queries*, to be published quarterly at cost price. Mr. Oliver thinks copies of the parish registers and an index of land-patents should be included in the matter to be published in the periodical. American sympathizers with the undertaking should communicate personally with Mr. Oliver at Whitmore Lodge, as above. Miss Cassin, a lady of St. John's, Antigua, has issued a prospectus, by the way, for a monthly magazine to be edited by her. It is to be called *The Carib*, and is to treat of matters West-Indian, historical and otherwise.

Among books of reference certainly, and doubtless among parlor gift-books, the two folio volumes of Mr. Hubert Howe Bancroft's 'Book of the Fair' (Chicago: The Bancroft Co.) have strong claims to a place. It ranges, in its account of the Columbian Exposition of 1893, from previous world's fairs to the Midwinter California Exposition. We are shown pictorially the great buildings in process of erection, and their ruins after fire has begun its devastation of them. The naval review in New York is fitly embraced in the list of ceremonial observances connected with the continental celebration. The auxiliary congresses are also taken note of. It would be idle to criticise the text for accuracy or fulness, since only a part could be told, and errors there must be in the most summary record of this nature. Yet no person ever saw all that is here depicted. The typography is excellent, and the vast array of illustrations well chosen where choice was free—as in all the external aspects of the Fair. The treatment is systematic and orderly, and there is an index sufficient for its purpose. We should have liked to see the names of the architects mentioned in immediate connection with their creations, and more information than the name might regularly have been affixed to the numerous portraits.

The Joseph Knight Co., Boston, have contrived some "World Classics" in pocket form and dainty attire—the two before us both Frenchy and from the French, both smoothly translated and prettily illustrated. One is Daudet's 'L'Arlésienne,' the other the Goncourts' 'Armande.' In each case there is an agreeable biographical introduction. The same house sends us 'Pipe and Pouch: The Smoker's Own Book of Poetry,' compiled with discrimination by Joseph Knight. Poetesses are not wanting from the list, in which Lowell's humor and sentiment are conspicuous.

The attractive reprints of standard verse this season are noteworthy. We can but mention them, and first, in the "Elizabethan Library," "'The Poet of Poets': the Love-Verse from the Minor Poems of Edmund Spenser,' edited by A. B. Grosart (Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.). This old-fashioned little volume draws upon "The Shepherd's Calendar," the "Hymns of Love and Beauty," "Colin Clout," "Epithalamion" and "Prothalamion," and the "Amoretti," each set with its prefatory account by Dr. Grosart, besides annotations. The same library, editor, and publishers bring about 'Green Pastures,' a punning title for choice extracts from the works of Robert Greene, not wholly metrical in this case, but pastoral enough. Two stouter volumes embody the 'Poems of William Drummond of Hawthornden,' edited by Wm. C. Ward (London: Lawrence & Bullen; New York: Scribners). The introductory memoir, which closes with a bibliography of Drummond, fills 125 pages. It is based on Masson's Life, to which it adds an item or two; and the notes exemplify more closely than has ever been done before Drummond's indebtedness to other poets, especially the Italian—Petrarch, Guarini, Marino above all. Lastly we enumerate 'The Lyric Poems of Edmund Spenser,' in the Dent-Macmillan series called "The Lyric Poets," and 'The Prelude to Poetry: the English Poets in the Defence and Praise of their own Art,' in "The Lyrical Poets" (an accidental distinction, maybe, of Lyric and Lyrical in the bastard titles). These are admirable specimens of book-making, save for the fine if clear print, and are edited by Ernest Rhys. The former, of course,

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overlaps Mr. Grosart's selections, and Spenser reappears among the "defenders" in 'The Prelude,' which is, however, mostly in prose, taken from Sir Philip Sidney, Ben Jonson, Dryden, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Shelley, and Landor—ask no more!

Mr. Aldrich's 'Story of a Bad Boy' (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) has been advanced to a showy edition illustrated by A. B. Frost. The author himself supplies a preface, and justifies his reluctance to engage in that sort of undertaking, for his humor is not at ease. All Mr. Frost's designs exhibit his cleverness and raciness, and "A Rainy Afternoon in the Garret" is a charming composition. The combination of wash and pen-and-ink drawing, however, is always risky, and is here out of key with the typographical elegance aimed at.

Joyce's 'Old Celtic Romances' (London: Nutt) is called on the title-page a "Second edition, revised and enlarged." The enlargement consists in the insertion of the "Voyage of the Sons of O'Corra." In all other respects the volume is a reprint of the first edition of 1879. Even the original preface is retained verbatim, with its now incongruous statement that the editor is *holding back* the O'Corra story; and the names occurring in this story have not been incorporated in the alphabetical list of proper names for the volume in general. Having left his notes unchanged, Joyce shows that he has not turned to account the work of the last fifteen years in Irish mythology.

'The Celtic Twilight,' by W. B. Yeats (Macmillan), is a dainty little volume of short pieces, all readable, and some quite attractive with their fine Irish flavor. In substance, most of them, but not all, border upon or set foot within the land of ghosts and fairies. The writer has a vivacious, clear-cut manner of narrating and moralizing; and, like the prudent householder, he brings out of his store things new and old. Most to our liking are "The Last Gleeman," "The Man and his Boots," "The Thick Skull of the Fortunate," and "The Religion of a Sailor." The humor of these is Irish to the core. As a whole, the booklet is of a kind that one can pick up at any time and read at random. But why is *shee*, 'hill-people,' 'fairies,' spelled *she* (p. 119)?

Mr. W. E. Henley and Mr. Charles Whibley have compiled 'A Book of English Prose, Character and Incident, 1387-1649'—as the somewhat inarticulate title runs—which is worthy of hearty commendation. The selections are made with taste, and are, without exception, worth reading, though many of them are from writers little known except to students. They are nearly all remarkably spirited, and will tempt many to accept the too sweeping generalization of the preface, that "the level of prose our distant fathers held is far higher than our own." The book is well printed and inexpensive. The more widely it circulates, the better, for it is old-fashionedly sound and wholesome, and therefore, if for no other reason, timely beyond all account. The publishers are J. B. Lippincott Co.

It is a pity that we must have a confusion of titles for translated novels. We had got used to 'Lisa' in Mr. Ralston's version of 'A Nest of Nobles,' and now Mrs. Constance Garnett presents us with 'A House of Gentlefolk,' being the second volume in her series of reproductions of Turgeneff's novels (Macmillan). "Stepniak" again prefaces the translation with a critical summary of this sad but ever beautiful story.

Mr. W. H. Frost evidently believes that the coming generation will be more Wagnerian than the present, and he has found a means of initiating it into the Nibelung myths at an early age. The 'Wagner Story-Book' (Scribners) contains the plots of ten of Wagner's operas and music dramas told in a chatty style suitable for young readers. The omission of the names of the characters seems injudicious, especially in the case of such famous legends as those of Siegfried and Lohengrin; but otherwise Mr. Frost's book may be commended. The illustrations do not call for special praise.

'The Child-Life and Girlhood of Remarkable Women,' by W. H. Davenport Adams (New York: Dutton & Co.), is a book which parents may safely put in the hands of their daughters provided they will first cut out the illustrations, which belong to the very worst period of coarse wood-engraving; and provided also that they do not object to the low level of style which marks the professional manufacturer of many books. With this drawback, the accounts are full of interest, contain frequently copious extracts from the recollections of girlhood of the remarkable women depicted, and may well inspire young girls to unselfish ways of living. The book is a reprint, without change, apparently, from the edition of 1883, though that fact is not mentioned.

Skeffington & Son, London, have published "A Digest" of the Rev. Bainbridge Smith's 'English Orders, Whence Obtained,' a notice of which appeared in the *Nation* of the 6th of September last. In its new shilling shape, Mr. Smith's treatise will be brought within the reach of those of the Anglican clergy who are not "passing rich."

Enthusiastic admiration for a gifted friend has directed the pen of M. de Heussey in his sketchy 'Villiers de l'Isle Adam, his Life and Works.' The book, which has been very well translated into English by Lady Mary Loyd and published in admirable fashion by Dodd, Mead & Co., is decidedly thin in texture and weak in critical appreciation. It is practically a laudation of Villiers de l'Isle Adam, undoubtedly a talented but somewhat erratic writer, and an arraigning of the cold and unappreciative world which failed to crown with highest honors a writer who failed, in his turn, to seize and hold the attention of the public. Villiers de l'Isle Adam wrote some beautiful verse—some passages of which are paraphrased with such freedom as to lose the meaning of the original—and some powerful tales, but he does not quite occupy the very high place assigned to him by his excited biographer and the no less laudatory translator.

'Contes tout simples' is the title given by Coppée to his latest volume (Paris: Lemerre; New York: Meyer Frères & Cie.), which appears in the dainty dress of the "Collection Lemerre illustrée." The stories are short, they are simple, and they are dramatic, most of them. All of them have just such a touch of seriousness as marks Maupassant's best work, and there are turns that remind one of that writer. Coppée has "scored" with this little volume.

Le Rire, the new French comic paper, has reached its third number without showing any qualities that should seem to promise longevity. The first two numbers were simply hopeless, in spite of a drawing of Forain's and of a mildly amusing skit at Puvis de Chavannes. The third is a shade better, with some political caricatures over which one may permit one's-self to smile, but which, after all, are more curious than they are funny.

La Quinzaine is a new bi-monthly review, of the size and general look of the *Revue de Paris*. It covers also much the same ground, taking art, literature, philosophy, and history as chief parts of its province, but differing from its contemporary in making much of religion and little of politics. Its position is that of a moderate and intelligent Catholicism. As collaborators its list shows five Academicians, MM. Émile Ollivier, F. Coppée, H. de Bonnier, J. M. de Hérédia, and Paul Bourget, and some fifty other names, all respectable, and one—Mistral's—which is illustrious. We will not criticise a first number. The one in hand contains unpublished letters of Barbey d'Aurevilly and Maurice de Guérin; an article on the late Père Gratry, which leaves unmentioned the only episode in that good man's life that drew on him the eyes of the world; an article—"Chez John Bull"—which contains some quite new misinformation about America; a curious and interesting sketch of the religious side of Thiers; and some fiction and conversation and verse. One of the bits of verse is by M. Paul Bourget: it may be read, or skipped. The departments conducted by the regular staff are, on the whole, good.

Those in search of a French magazine approximating the English or American pattern will do well to look at *Le Monde Moderne*, an illustrated monthly (Paris: A. Quantin; New York: Westermann; International News Co.) which bears January, 1895, on the face of its first number. Its great variety of departments embraces sport, fashions, music, book-reviews, minor inventions; there are articles on Verdi's "Falstaff" and "Othello," on Sarah Bernhardt, on the contest for Lake Tchad, on photography in colors, on the excavations at Dashur in the Libyan desert, etc., etc.

The *Bulletin de la Société de Géographie* contains an account of the adventures of a young Frenchman in Morocco which reads more like romance than reality. Gabriel Delbrel, a lad of eighteen years, left France in September, 1890, for Algeria. In a few months he seems to have acquired the Moorish language sufficiently to cross the frontier, costumed as a native, but without concealing his nationality or his religion. This proving too dangerous, he afterwards passed as a Turkish Mussulman. He went to Fez as one of the followers of a Berber kaid, and even accompanied him into the presence of the Sultan when he paid his tribute. Later he was arrested by the oldest son of the Sultan, Muley Omar, of whom Mr. Walter B. Harris gives such an unfavorable account in his article in *Blackwood* on the accession of the new Sultan. He succeeded in making his escape, and, joining his Berber friends, went with them to the oasis of Tafilelt, where the imperial army was encamped. Here again he was recognized and brought before the Sultan, but was taken under the protection of Muley Abdul Aziz, his Majesty's favorite son and the present Sultan, whose interest in him arose from the fact that Muley Omar had told him of the Frenchman's drawings. A warm friendship seems to have sprung up between the two young men, and M. Delbrel taught the prince to draw. He accompanied the army to Morocco, but, soon after his arrival in that city, managed to escape to the coast, reaching Marseilles in January of this year.

What was once the "Office for the Examination of Barbarian Books" in Yedo has become the Imperial University of Japan, whose Calendar for 1893-'94 is now before us. Mr. Arato Hamao, LL.D., who has been for more than twenty years connected with the institution, is still the untiring President. The various colleges now associated in one organization

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are those of law, medicine, engineering, literature, science, and agriculture. The steady growth of the great university is shown not only in the historical résumé, the lists of subjects taught, the faculties, museums, libraries, and collections of apparatus, but in the long and suggestive list of scientific publications. Something is lacking, however, in the department of literature, for Prof. Chamberlain's monograph still stands alone. In the grand total of undergraduates we find 1,397. Of professors, winners of degrees, and graduates there have been 1,961, of whom 129 are deceased. A neat map of the "Compound" also accompanies this suggestive pamphlet.

A fund is being raised to purchase Carlyle's house at Chelsea and make of it a personal museum. The house is untenanted and in a run-down condition, and $20,000 is the estimated amount necessary to buy and maintain it. Earl Rosebery heads the committee. Subscriptions should be addressed to Mr. A. C. Miller, 61 Cecil Street, Manchester, England.

—Dr. Holmes is triply commemorated in the *Harvard Graduate's Magazine* for December —by two of his classmates, in a poem and in an account of his assiduous attendance at and literary participation in the class meetings; and by Dr. D. W. Cheever, a former assistant in the Harvard Medical School, who with much charm and feeling tells of Oliver Wendell Holmes the Anatomist. The late Prof. Josiah Parsons Cooke has a proper tribute paid to his worth as a man and benefactor of the college, and his distinction as an investigator in chemistry. Excellent portraits accompany both these obituary notices. Prof. de Sumicbrast makes a very impressive showing of the machinery now established at Harvard for securing a friendly adviser among the Faculty for every student willing to avail himself of it. It lacks, to our mind, but one feature, and that is a notification to parents of the objectionable societies, customs, or practices which the Faculty need parental assistance in suppressing. The general advance in domestic humanity is illustrated by the so-called "football game," abolished in 1860, in which the seniors (and sophomores) annually "received" the freshmen (and juniors) in a slugging match, as contrasted with the operations of the Committee on Reception for the freshmen described by Prof. de Sumichrast. That intercollegiate humanity, however, has suffered a sharp decline in the same period, is only too notorious. Dr. Sargent, in an article on the gymnasium, offers what must be a barren argument for admitting faithful exercise there to count as one of the factors in a student's rank. Mr. Dole's plea for the study of Russian is rational, and will be heeded, no doubt, when a foundation is provided. Prof. Hart, reviewing the opening of the academic year, foreshadows the abandonment of the Harvard examinations for women, as having been superseded by the new "treaty" with Radcliffe College. He instances several ways in which this treaty is precipitating what used to be called "the confounded woman question" upon the authorities. The present number of the *Magazine* is one of the best yet published.

—The influence of college-bred men on their time is always an interesting topic. No doubt the old notion still prevails that in the United States the self-made men have been uppermost in public affairs; but this is a popular fallacy, as a glance at the training of our Presidents and leading politicians would show. A more striking illustration is given in the list of "immortals" whose names have recently been placed on the drum of the dome of the new House of Representatives in Boston. The commissioners under whose charge the building has been constructed have chosen fifty-three names of Massachusetts men who, in their judgment, best deserve commemoration, the number being determined by the space to be filled. Of these, Morse, who graduated at Yale, invented the electric telegraph, and Bell the telephone. Dr. Morton discovered ether. Four were historians, and all Harvard graduates—Bancroft, Prescott, Motley, and Parkman. The poets Emerson, Holmes, and Lowell were also Harvard graduates; Longfellow and Hawthorne graduated from Bowdoin; Bryant studied at Williams; Whittier did not go to college. Of two painters, J. S. Copley and W. M. Hunt, the latter belonged to Harvard; and of three clergymen, Channing and Brooks graduated at Harvard, and Jonathan Edwards at Yale. Among statesmen are Pickering, John and J. Q. Adams, Dane, Quincy, Everett, and Sumner of Harvard, Choate and Webster of Dartmouth, Andrew of Bowdoin, and Henry Wilson. The law is represented by Parsons, Shaw, Story, and Allen; all but the last, whose selection has been criticised, being Harvard alumni. The two Revolutionary generals, Knox and Lincoln, did not go to college; the two generals in the Rebellion, Devens and Bartlett, went to Harvard. Of the reformers, Wendell Phillips was Motley's classmate at Harvard, Garrison had no college education, and Horace Mann graduated at Brown. From Brown, too, came Dr. S. G. Howe, instructor of the blind. Bulfinch, the architect, and Peirce, the mathematician, went to Harvard; Agassiz fitted at several Continental universities. Franklin, Bowditch, the navigator, and Putnam, the settler of the Northwest, had no college education. Five of the original colonists—Winthrop, Carver, Endicott, Bradford, and Vane—are appropriately remembered; the first studied at Trinity College, Dublin, the last at Oxford.

—Thus it appears that out of fifty-three men representing the highest attainments in the civic life, the literature, art, and science of Massachusetts, thirty-eight, or 72 per cent., were certainly college-bred. Morton, the dentist, and Allen, the judge, must have had the equivalent of a college education in learning their profession. Where Bradford, Carver, and Endicott were educated does not appear. Of the thirty-eight, Harvard claims twenty-five, viz., Bancroft, Prescott, Motley, Parkman, Emerson, Holmes, Lowell, Hunt, Channing, Brooks, Pickering, J. and J. Q. Adams, Dane, Quincy, Sumner, Parsons, Shaw, Story, Everett, Phillips, Devens, Bartlett, Peirce, and Bulfinch; Bowdoin has three—Hawthorne, Longfellow, and Andrew; Dartmouth two—Webster and Choate; Yale two—Edwards and Morse; Brown two—Mann and Howe; Oxford, Dublin, and Munich have one each—Vane, Winthrop, and Agassiz, respectively. The fifteen non-collegians are Morton, Bell, Whittier, Copley, Carver, Bradford, Endicott, Knox, Lincoln, Wilson, Allen, Putnam, Garrison, Franklin, and Bowditch. If we exclude the five founders, Bell and Agassiz are the only foreigners in the list, which is, on the whole, fairly good. Perhaps in place of Henry Wilson one might have expected John Hancock, whether as president of the Continental Congress or as first Governor of the Commonwealth. Doubtless also Poe and Thoreau would have many supporters, and Allston might have kept company with Copley. Does Bell's telephone entitle him to the roll of honor in the same degree that Eli Whitney's cotton-gin should entitle him? Whitney's invention, it is not too much to say, not only revolutionized American industries, but indirectly had tremendous influence on the political development of the country; the telephone has been, thus far, merely a commercial convenience. Finally, since in selecting Bell they chose among the living, the commissioners might well have chosen President Eliot of Harvard, whose work in education, in the entire country not less than in Massachusetts, has had no parallel. But the fifty-three worthies whose names are thus blazoned serve as well as a larger number might to prove the ascendency of college-bred men in Massachusetts since the coming of the Pilgrims.

—The December *Forum* contains a short autobiographical sketch by the late Philip Gilbert Hamerton, entitled "The Chief Influences on My Career," which, as the editor remarks in a footnote, "has a melancholy interest because it is among the last products of Mr. Hamerton's pen, if not the last." The opening sentence of the article reads: "The most powerful influences over my life have been (1) literature, (2) nature in landscape, (3) the graphic arts, (4) society." He explains that human intercourse has been placed last because he lived much in the country, "where books and landscapes were more accessible than cultivated people"; but the order of the other three influences is very significant. He was first and always a man of literary culture, secondly a lover of nature, and third and resultantly a painter. As an artist he never achieved anything remarkable, but his equipment and individuality made him naturally a critic of art. At first his love of nature led him to a wrong view of art, and he assumed, as did Ruskin, that the most literal transcript of natural fact was the highest form of art. Later his practice of art gave him a deeper insight, while his literary culture aided him in the presentation of his views to the reading public, so that he became perhaps the most powerful influence in the dissemination of right views of art in the English-speaking world. He had an infinite capacity for taking pains in the statement of apparently simple things, and never hesitated to go over old ground or to dwell at length on the things the artist generally takes for granted; and hence he succeeded where most artist-writers fail, while he was enough of a painter to avoid the pitfalls of the purely literary mind when dealing with art. To the specialist he often seemed to deal in solemn commonplaces, but they were not commonplaces to the general public for which he wrote. If never sparkling or epigrammatic, his style was clear and smooth; and if his views were never new and seldom profound, they were eminently sound. If not a great critic, Mr. Hamerton was a good one, and his books have afforded pleasure and instruction to thousands for whom stronger meat might have been less wholesome.

—A new proposal tending towards much greater freedom of study at Oxford was brought forward in Convocation on November 27, when the draft of a new statute was promulgated which provides for the establishment of a research degree. This is to be a Baccalaureate of either Science or Letters, according to the field in which the candidate has done his work. A special delegacy will be appointed as supervisors of the new department. No one may enter on the course of special

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study which entitles him to be a candidate unless he is twenty-one years old, has obtained the Oxford B.A., or otherwise qualified himself, has shown aptness for research, and has chosen a line of study which may profitably be pursued at the University. The delegacy may then accept him, and after two (or, in some cases, three) years of study, he may receive the degree of Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Letters. If he obtains either of these degrees, he will be allowed to proceed to his M.A. under precisely the same conditions as if he had obtained the ordinary B.A. degree. It will be seen how much this plan favors special and original work and the increase of the sum of knowledge. Details, no doubt, will be discussed with a certain fervor, but it is said that the scheme, as a whole, is likely to pass.

—American collectors of Napoleonica are presumably interested in American editions of books relating to Bonaparte, but about these very little seems to be known. After the *Century Magazine* published (October-November, 1893) the diary of Sir G. Cockburn's secretary, the editors learned (according to a note in the December number) that a small edition of the work had been issued in England in 1888. But they seem never to have heard of the edition published in Boston in 1833, the title-page of which reads as follows: 'Buonaparte's Voyage to St. Helena; Comprising the Diary of Rear-Admiral Sir George Cockburn, during his Passage from England to St. Helena, in 1815. From the Original Manuscript, in the Handwriting of his Private Secretary. Boston: Lilly, Wait, Colman, and Holden. 1833.' (12mo, pp. xi, 123.) Following the title is a "Publishers' Advertisement":

"The following Narrative, in the original manuscript, was put into our possession by Captain J. F. Brookhouse of Salem. . . . The manuscript is in the handwriting of a gentleman well known and much respected at St. Helena, who officiated as private Secretary to Admiral Cockburn during the voyage. He has since died, and it is through his family connexions that the public are now favoured with this interesting document. There is another copy of this manuscript in existence, which was, at one period, in the course of publication in England, but considerations, which may be obviously inferred from the character of the production itself, then led to its suppression, and must continue to prevent its appearance from that quarter."

Of the English edition the editors of the *Century* say, in the note mentioned: "A comparison of the Admiral's diary with that of his secretary, John R. Glover (which is the diary *for the first time* printed by the *Century*), would seem to indicate that the Admiral's account was based on the fuller and more important record of his secretary. Whether the Admiral dictated any part of his diary may not be determined; but there can be no doubt of the paramount historical value of the Glover manuscript. . . ." Another version of the same incidents and conversations, but of much less historical value, is that published by Warden, the surgeon of the *Northumberland* (London, 1817). There were two American reprints of this, also published in 1817. The titles are identical except as to imprint, that of one (18mo, 142 pp.) being "Newbern [N. C.?]: Published by W. Ivey and J. Scott," the other (18mo, 240 pp., plates) being "Philadelphia: Published by Mitchell & Ames." A companion volume to these was Capt. Maitland's 'Narrative of the Surrender of Buonaparte, and of his residence on board H. M. S. *Bellerophon*.' Of this, also, there is an American edition (Boston: Wells & Lilly, 1826. 12mo, 176 pp.). All four books are in the library of Harvard college.

SHALER'S UNITED STATES.

The United States of America: A Study of the American Commonwealth, its natural resources, people, industries, manufactures, commerce, and its works in literature, science, education, and self-government. Edited by Nathaniel Southgate Shaler, S.D. 2 vols. D. Appleton & Co. Royal 8vo. Illustrated. Pp. xxv, 670, 649.

It was most natural that those who were under the spell of the White City a year ago should be stimulated as never before to ask how its magic was possible when the stretch of an actual life reached back to the time when an Indian trader, coming from the comparative civilization of the fur company's settlement and depot at Mackinaw, had hid his canoes among the rushes of Chicago River while he packed his goods down to his market among the red men at Kankakee. He had gone half a day's journey on his way from Fort Dearborn when his pack-horses, escorted by his buckskin-clad guards with rifle on shoulder, waded the sedgy lagoons that now opened from the peristyle into the Court of Honor, where gondolas and electric launches rivalled each other in lending romance to the passage from palace to palace, each more dazzling than the other. Gurdon Hubbard did not quite live to tell his story as the fairy boat moved silently in front of the great dome outlined in the night by lines of myriad lamps, but there were those there who had heard him tell it but a little while before, and whose hearts swelled with wonder at it all.

How had it happened? What had made it possible? Whence had come the trooping millions that had swarmed across a continent and worked a transformation in a wilderness that had not changed since the retreating ice of a far-away glacial epoch, but which now had burst so suddenly into the full flower of modern civilization? These questions went humming through the brains of hosts of visitors, native and foreign, and they gained in earnest interest from the spirit of prophecy which was also in the air and was part of the contagion of the moment—which saw these fleeting outlines of noble architecture and sculpture made imperishable in marble and in bronze, rising in imposing vistas in many a great city from the East to the West, with a grandeur as colossal as the continent itself.

Prof. Shaler seems to have caught the inspiration of the scene, and to have set himself the delightful task of telling the story of the marriage of this wild nature with a new and vigorous race of men, and of the giant progeny which came of it, physical, industrial, mental, political. The work called for a geologist, broadened by life in a critical epoch of his country's history and by sympathy with all its problems. It was not a question of the mere depth of the till or the loess that the ice had left on the boundless prairies, or the classification of the Silurian fossils which the erosion of the Ohio Valley displays in marvellous variety. It was rather how, in its continental workshop, nature had been making a home for civilized man—how the glacial drift was not only a grist of the ice-mill, but of the mills of God as well, making possible the vast fields of bending grain, and the armies of husbandmen with scythed chariots of rattling reapers—how the fossil animals had stored up for unnumbered ages the phosphates underlying and feeding the lush pastures where the shimmering blue of the grass-blossoms gives name to the Kentucky home of fine horses, of ponderous beeves, and of stalwart men.

This is the poetry of science, it is true; but it is one of the secrets which Science whispers to all her devotees, that her adepts find all their paths leading up to lessons of harmony and beauty on the grandest scale. If the professor's plan of a comprehensive view of the relations of the land to her people and her people to the land was a vacation thought suggested by the visit to the Exposition of 1893, it was a most happy thought and one of the most fertile. It is in the line of those large generalizations which make the fascination of Darwin's voyage round the world in the *Beagle*, where even we who follow afar off can see the growing thought of the relation of long isolated habitats to peculiar specific forms of life. It has its resemblance to Wallace's sagacious tracing of the inductive lines by which the distribution of earth's inhabitants, high and humble, vegetable as well as animal, is tied to continental mountain chains which rise like vertebræ from the back of the lifting shore. It has humbler pretensions, and does not announce epoch-making discoveries, but its relationship to great work is none the less a close one.

It is right to speak thus of the editor's share in this important work, for he has not only planned it, but his authorship of its chapters greatly outmeasures that of any of his coworkers. More than a score of experts, each of whom is a recognized authority in his department, have furnished a picture of the growth of the country in some noteworthy direction. All these combine to make an exposition, to the mind's eye, in which we pass from hall to hall, noticing the achievements, marking the discouragements, learning our own peculiarities, comparing each with what has been done or is doing elsewhere in the world. In this way the means is given of building up an adequate notion of our country in its actual state; the land, the inhabitants, their institutions, their industries, their character, their morals, and their health.

Some of the most interesting suggestions are those which grow out of the physical geography of the country. First comes the broad inquiry how much of the continent is habitable by folk of our stock. This subdivides into numerous branches. What limits are fixed by the cold of the north, what by the heats of the south, what by the altitude of the interior plateaus, what by the droughts of the arid region, what by the swamps of the lowlands? What regions are malarial, what are consumptive? How far can science overcome any or all of these limitations?

Physical features of the country are shown to have modified the spread of immigration. The French were tempted by the highway of the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes to scatter rapidly over the whole of that vast basin. But the scattering itself attenuated the civilizing forces of the colonies, and the people more easily fell into merely adventurous and trading lives, mingling in blood as well as in habits with the aborigines. The English colonies were held more together by the rampart of mountains parallel to the Atlantic coast, and grew into strong communities trained and schooled in the life of civilized pioneers before they broke over the Alleghenies. Then one route was opened by the Mohawk Valley to the fat lands of the "Genesees." Another path was found by the upper Potomac to the headwaters of the Monongahela and to Fort

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Duquesne. Still another, farther south, mounted the James till gaps were found leading over into the Kanawha, or into the Holston Valley and thence by Cumberland Gap into Kentucky. Each line of migration had its characteristics, determined by the communities from which it emerged, and modified by the soil, the climate, and the latitude of the country which it settled. The action and reaction of physical, moral, and political influences upon the community is constantly borne in mind and often traced in curiously interesting facts. The reason for a sharp line between a dense and thriving population and one sparse and poor is sometimes shown to be the character of the rocks which underlie their homes. The modifications which may be made in the future by drainage, by irrigation, by fertilizers, by artesian wells, by new grasses or grains, are all suggestively discussed, as well from the standpoint of physical resources of the earth as from that of increased facilities of transportation and commerce. Coal-mines, oil-wells, forests, the distribution and supply of fuel and lumber are each the subject of wise and instructive lessons. So are the mines of gold, silver, copper, lead, and other useful metals.

The chapters written by Prof. Shaler are about one-third of the whole in quantity of matter, and would make, of themselves, a book of symmetric treatment and composition. Those furnished by his co-workers are necessarily more varied in handling, as they are less closely connected in topic. None of them is trivial, and all are written by men who are able to present vividly the facts that help make up the general survey which is their common aim.

Prof. Judson tells the story of the acquisition of the Mississippi Valley and the interaction of French and American institutions upon each other, including the strange phenomenon of the attempt to found a Mormon State. Mr. Bancroft does the like for the Spanish and American colonies of the Pacific coast and the wild rush to the gold mines which produced a social and political revolution.

Mr. Edward Atkinson deals with the Progress of Industry, noting in what fields of work the simple mechanism of ancient times has survived, and contrasting this with the perfected modern machinery of advanced type. The potter's wheel is an example of the first. Of the second he says: "It would be possible to-day to put logs of wood into one end of a factory and to take out from the other end a printed book, stitched and ready for the covers, without a single human hand touching the fabric of the paper from the beginning to the end of the process." This advance in the mechanic arts and this fertility of invention applied to every department of industry has, we are told, "enabled our soil to support a great increase in population which exists in comfort where a sparse population was fading away." Examples of it are shown with a clearness of description and a vivid portrayal of results that keep the romance of national progress keyed to a high poetic pitch, which is not lowered, but seems to gain power from scores of tables, illustrated by diagrams, showing to the eye at a glance the meaning of important statistics. Mr. Fairfield adds to the illustration of the subject by a description of shoemaking of old and in the present.

After Mr. Cooley has expounded the principles of transportation by water and by land, and the vital interest the whole nation has in it as the necessary condition of occupying the great continental spaces, we have Mr. Kenelly's picture of the work of the telegraph and telephone in the transportation of thought, the annihilators of time in the communication of messages. The outline of electrical theory is given and its application as motive power. Then Mr. Prout takes up the subject of the railway itself, considering what are the characteristics of American improvements and the noteworthy developments of American ideas. These are shown in surveying and locating lines, in rapidity of construction, whether of track or of bridges, in adapting forms of engine to conditions of structure made necessary by haste and economy, and in securing comfort and safety in long journeys where the train must be the hotel.

Mr. Charles F. Adams inquires into the causes and effects of the combination of capital and enterprise under the control of corporations. He exhibits them as analogous to the improved machinery in manufactures—a time-saving, labor-saving, money-saving method of doing better what was before done at greater cost every way. He shows why we may believe that, like the introduction of labor-saving machinery, these, too, will prove to be useful to the whole community, though temporary loss may occur to individuals in the change from one method to the other. A warning example is given of the losses apt to attend governmental interference in enterprises which need the economy and thrift born of personal interest.

The education of the masses of the people which has made republican self-government a possibility, and which has given the intelligence and enterprise necessary for all the other steps forward, is considered and analyzed by the Commissioner of Education, Mr. Harris. The kinds of schools, their work and methods, the relations of common schools to those of higher grade, and of all to liberal education, are made the subject of a critical examination. This is supplemented by a presentation of the progress of learning and the various means of promoting it, by President Gilman.

But we have not yet mentioned the growth and characteristics of our cities and municipal organizations, the political organization of the country, the machinery of legislation, the general outline of our finance, and a discussion of our financial situation; and that these are ably handled, the names of Col. Waring and of Profs. McMaster, Wilson, and Taussig are sufficient guarantee. Literature, art, and architecture are dealt with by Messrs. Warner, Millet, and Van Brunt; public hygiene, by Mr. Abbott; and the physical state of the people, by Mr. Sargent. The aborigines and their condition make a sad but interesting picture from the pen of Major Powell. Mr. Soley gives the history of our mercantile navy and of the skill of our shipbuilders and the enterprise of our navigators and sailors. Col. Dodge tells of the armed means of preserving the peace and enforcing the law by our army and militia system, and how our national guard has grown to a great and sure reliance. The Rev. Lyman Abbott answers the question, What is the moral outcome of all this, and what are democracy and the spirit of national progress to do in affecting the ethical and spiritual life of the nation?

This very bare outline will at least give some notion of the editor's plan and the large scale on which this picture of the actual United States is drawn. The performance is much more close to the promise of the scheme than is ordinarily possible. There is very little interference of parts or repetition of matter. If there is not the literary unity which a single writer could give, where is the writer who could present such a group of subjects with the sure hand and firm touch of this corps of experts? Students of special departments may not always agree with the conclusions here reached, and the standpoint of those treating allied subjects may not be identically the same; but the book is not a controversial one. It is a picture and not a discussion. As a picture it is greatly stimulating, even inspiring, and must be regarded as a remarkable success.

In external form the solid volumes are attractive. Most of the illustrations are half-tone reproductions of photographs, and the pictures of scenery and of buildings are especially satisfactory.

RECENT AMERICAN POETRY.

In comparing any recent harvest of English and American poetry, it is not difficult to point out certain generic differences, bearing rather on *milieu* and antecedents than on genius or skill. Of a dozen English books of this kind, eight or ten will probably be written by university men who know the same slang, play the same games, and are equally capable of a Greek motto; they often show the effects of travel, but within a limited range; there is no varied local coloring; they know their London and often their Paris; they are usually conventional, particularly when they assume to be unconventional, because then they are trying to adopt some new convention, which is apt to be Parisian in origin, although Walt Whitman for a time, taken far more seriously than at home, contributed his share of it. Among a dozen new Americans, on the contrary, only one or two will show traces of university training or the slightest inclination for a Greek motto; but there will be a far greater variety of local coloring, because they come from different parts of an enormous land; and there is usually a refreshing indifference to what London or Paris thinks. There is, on the whole, more that is hopeful among them, because "vitality is always hopeful," and it is easier, in the long run, to add culture than to create individual character. It is not at all certain that Thoreau and Whittier and Whitman would have been stronger men or done more influential work, even for England, if they had ever crossed the Atlantic.

The greater influence of the daily newspaper in America gives it far more voice in literary matters here than in England; and hence the question comes up much oftener here, in poetry as in all other arts, between the test of serious judgment and the test of popularity. Which is the greater, "Ben Bolt" or "In Memoriam"; "Little Annie Rooney" or "Paradise Lost"? The good-natured critic must allow that there is something to be said in favor of the hand-organ standard, whether for music or art. We cannot think, however, that Mr. Joel Chandler Harris puts his case very well in writing a preface to Mr. Frank L. Stanton's 'Songs of the Soil' (Appletons). He claims admiration for these, first and chiefly, on the ground that "the writings of no American poet have achieved such wide popularity." But this is, to a certain extent, an *argumentum ad hominem*—it is addressed to those who have contributed to spread that popularity—whereas the present reviewer is not conscious of ever before having seen Mr. Stanton's name, although he is very glad to encounter it at last. Then this merit is further argued on the ground that this writer's poems "are struck off in the heat and hurry of newspaper work" (p. viii.), and that he

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"frequently writes five or six poems a day." Moreover, any criticism on them is "sophistication," and the apostles of culture are invited to complain of them as wanting in literary art. We have no claim, perhaps, to speak for those apostles; but we should say that the poems justify Mr. Harris's description of their origin. With a volume of Riley's dialect poetry before him, for the humor, and a volume of Poe for the serious measure—see, for instance, the jingling repetend in "Chattahoochee" (p. 151)—we can see no reason why any wide-awake country editor should not produce five, six, or even seven of these poems in a morning without seriously interfering with business.

The 'Songs of the Soil' simply takes rank with 'Back Country Poems,' by Sam Walter Foss (Boston: Lee & Shepard), of which we are also assured that it is "well known to the newspaper-readers of the country." There is more homely earnestness, perhaps, about Mr. Foss, and both poets have, undoubtedly, a wide range of readers and of usefulness; but it only injures them to place them where they do not belong. After all, what they offer to the critical reader is that Riley-and-water which is now abundantly on tap in so many different directions, and which is often a pleasant beverage, though it rarely satisfies. And since Mr. Harris girds at the poor critic, and even Mr. Foss makes his Sebastian Morey say (p. 194) of his last poem

"The angels tol' me every word, an' it would make me famous
If every 'tarnal editor warn't sich an ignoramus,"

it may be well to point out, from the point of view of the long-suffering reader, one simple proposition: Dialect poetry, beyond all other, must smack of the soil, or it is nothing. Now, there has been some recent criticism in the newspapers upon Mrs. Moulton and other poets, who have been reverting to the old American stock-in-trade, belonging to days when they sang of the nightingale and lark as inevitably as Mr. Weller, in his love-making, talked about "darts and piercers." In Mr. Foss, to do him justice, we find no such incongruity, but we have only to open Mr. Stanton's volume and find (p. 41) "A Song for Her," which consists of three verses in which the birds selected to perform the minstrelsy are the mocking-bird, the whippoorwill, and—the "lark of dawn"; not, be it observed, the homely and honest meadow-lark of American meadows, but the very skylark "at God's gates." How can any one help seeing a certain incongruity in this—as they might perceive it in a banquet of succotash and Bath buns, or 'possum and Yarmouth bloaters?

Not that this is peculiar to this particular writer; Mr. Richard Hovey and Mr. Bliss Carman are poets of much higher pretensions, and yet, in their 'Songs from Vagabondia' (Chicago: Stone & Kimball) they celebrate the throstle, a bird as out of place on American soil as any nightingale of them all. It cannot be too often pointed out—and we have not heretofore to reproach ourselves with any neglect of this duty—that this want of local coloring, beginning with birds and flowers, soon shows itself in other ways, and impairs genuineness in everything. Thus, Mr. Robert J. Wickenden, in his 'Poems of Nature and Sentiment' (New York and Chicago: Keppel), writes in his "Milkmaid Song" (p. 20):

"The lark mounts high in song and sky
To welcome in the morning";

and in his "Twilight Pastoral" flings in (perhaps for the latitude of Chicago) a shepherd boy with his pipe (p. 15)—

"While the shepherd boy and the nightingale
Pipe forth their evening hymn."

The transition being thus effected from exotic birds to exotic human figures, it is not strange when Mr. Crawford, in his late novel of New York society, makes his Katharine Lauderdale consult "a dissenting minister."

To return to 'Songs from Vagabondia,' it has an interest in being in some degree a reflection, illustrations and all, of that current London taste of which we ourselves have heretofore spoken with a certain distaste. It may be described as an undergraduate book, and this to a degree rather surprising from two authors who have already done maturer work. It is flavored rather aggressively with that cheap Bohemianism which goes with Hasty Pudding Clubs and Skull and Bones associations, or perhaps even suggests those London shop-boys in Dickens who club for oysters and porter as they go home at night and think there is nothing like life. The merit of the little book lies, on the other hand, in a certain lilt and ring which make it tuneful, and sometimes almost fascinating. The love-making is mostly of the patronizing description, and is turned generally, in the current London fashion, to what is brown and sunburnt. But on the whole there is a sensation, as with Thackeray's Dick Tinto, of young gentlemen who only play at vagabondism, and have no real objection to a bath-tub and clean linen, while sometimes a strong and even noble key is struck, as in "The Marching Morrows" (p. 48).

Now gird thee well for courage,
My knight of twenty year,
Against the marching morrows
That fill the world with fear.

The flowers fade before them;
The summer leaves the hill;
Their trumpets range the morning,
And those who hear grow still.

The dust is on their corselets;
Their marching fills the world;
With *conquest after conquest*
Their banners are unfurled.

Yet fear thou not! If haply
Thou be the kingly one,
They'll set thee in their vanguard
To lead them round the sun.

He who can touch a chord like that will not always be found lingering underground with Kavanagh and his Cruiskeen Lawn (p. 33).

To pass from this obtrusively vagrant book to the comparatively trim gardens of Mr. William Roscoe Thayer is not wholly a pleasure, because, although Mr. Thayer, in his 'Poems, New and Old' (Houghton), likes Oriental themes, and sings sometimes of Hafiz and of wine, it is still done in the Western and almost in the academic spirit, and emotion is rather described than lived. He too touches the lyrical chord deftly here and there, though the song is apt to seem made, not sung:

"Shepherd on Dakota's hills,
When you drive your flock to shearing,
Sailor on the Carib Sea,
As your ship is southward steering,
Guess ye where the goal may be?
Fleece and freight shall come to me
Spite of distance and of veering."

This strain is graceful and flexible, yet it evidently goes to piano-music, and not to the banjo of 'Vagabondia'; but there is room for all.

'Lincoln's Grave,' by Maurice Thompson (Stone & Kimball), was first read as a poem before the Harvard Chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa; and it certainly impresses us, on re-reading, as one of the few fine poetic fruits of the war. It derives its peculiar power from the fact that its author served in the Confederate ranks; but, apart from that, it gives an analysis of Lincoln's character surpassed only by Lowell's terse lines in the Commemoration Ode. What could touch the very life of the man better than this, for instance (p. 22)?

"His humor, born of virile opulence,
Stung like a pungent sap or wild-fruit zest,
And satisfied a universal sense
Of manliness, the strongest and the best:
A soft Kentucky strain was in his voice,
And the Ohio's deeper boom was there,
With some wild accents of old Wabash days,
And winds of Illinois;
And when he spake he took us unaware
With his high courage and unselfish ways.

"And fresh from God he had the godlike power
Of universal sympathy with life,
Or high or low; he knew the day and hour,
Felt every motive actuating strife,
Lived on both sides of every aspiration,
And saw how men could differ and be right,
How from all points the waves of truth are driven
To one last destination;
How prayer that battles prayer with awful might
Eternally tempestuous rolls to heaven."

As for Mr. James Whitcomb Riley himself, it is safe to say that so long as he writes dialect poems people will read them, because he has the gift of tears and strikes home to the heart. In 'Armazindy' (Indianapolis: Bowen-Merrill Co.) he has, for instance, this brief picture—but it is enough (p. 31):

HOW DID YOU REST LAST NIGHT?

"How did you rest last night?"
I've heard my gran'pap say
Them words a thousand times—that's right—
Jes them words thataway!
As punctchul-like as morning dast
To ever heave in sight,
Gran'pap 'ud allus haf to ast—
"How did you rest last night?"

Us young-uns used to grin
At breakfast, on the sly,
And mock the wobble of his chin
And eyebrows helt so high
And kind: "How did you rest last night?"
We'd mumble and let on
Our voices trimbled, and our sight
Was dim, and hearin' gone.

Bad as I used to be,
All I'm a-wantin' is
As puore and ca'm a sleep fer me
And sweet a sleep as his!
And so I pray, on Judgment Day
To wake, and with its light
See *his* face dawn and hear him say—
"How did you rest last night?"

It is hardly needful to say that with each new and slender volume by Mr. Aldrich, such as 'Unguarded Gates' (Houghton), we rise above the academic into the sphere of the artistic. This adjective has been so often used about him that it is hackneyed, and sometimes it is meant as a word of reproach, perhaps, or even of limitation, as identifying his merit with form rather than substance. Perhaps it is fortunate when he disowns allegiance to art, sometimes by an imperfect rhyme, or by a sonnet which departs from that due Italian sequence of rhymes which is wont to hold him captive—as with "Andromeda," for example (p. 97), where the thought is so generous and the phrasing so noble as to vindicate whatever sequence he pleases to use:

The smooth-worn coin and threadbare classic phrase
Of Grecian myths that did beguile my youth,
Beguile me not as in the olden days:
I think more grief and beauty dwell with truth.
Andromeda, in fetters by the sea,
Star pale with anguish till young Perseus came,
Less moves me with her suffering than she,
The slim girl-figure fettered to dark shame,
That nightly haunts the park, there like a shade,
Trailing her wretchedness from street to street.
See where she passes—neither wife nor maid.
How all mere fiction crumbles at her feet!
Here is woe's self, and not the mask of woe.
A legend's shadow shall not move you so.

Note how every syllable tells upon the ear; note the Shaksperian precision of the phrases, building up the successive lines until "mere fiction crumbles," and the last two lines come in, as in Shakspere's sonnets, with a summing up of the thought and a slight recoil, as of a spent wave. More ample in structure, and with something of Lowell's rhythmic lifting, but with more delicate adjustment and more complete freedom from jarring metaphors than

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the rich and robust Lowell ever achieved, is the following (p. 55):

TWO MOODS.

Between the budding and the falling leaf
Stretch happy skies;
With colors and sweet cries
Of mating birds in uplands and in glades
The world is rife.
Then on a sudden all the music dies,
The color fades,
How fugitive and brief
Is mortal life
Between the budding and the falling leaf!
O, short-breathed music, dying on the tongue
Ere half the mystical canticle be sung!
O harp of life, so speedily unstrung!
Who, if 'twere his to choose, would know again
The bitter sweetness of the lost refrain,
Its rapture and its pain?

Though I be shut in darkness, and become
Insentient dust blown idly here and there,
I count oblivion a scant price to pay
For having once had held against my lip
Life's brimming cup of hydromel and rue—
For having once known woman's holy love
And a child's kiss, and for a little space
Been boon companion to the Day and Night,
Fed on the odors of the summer dawn,
And folded in the beauty of the stars.
Dear Lord, though I be changed to senseless clay,
And serve the potter as he turns his wheel,
I thank Thee for the gracious gift of tears!

Mrs. Dodge and Miss Edith M. Thomas both send forth volumes for children—the former giving us 'When Life is Young; A Collection of Verse for Boys and Girls' (Century Co.), and the latter 'In Sunshine Land' (Houghton). It is impossible to compare them without perceiving that while Miss Thomas has the finer poetic touch, Mrs. Dodge is the natural singer for children, trained and developed also by long practice. One can read 'In Sunshine Land' with much pleasure; but open 'While Life is Young' wherever you will, the reader's life becomes young also, and the most hardened critic looks round for some child to whom to impart the cheery lay.

'Quintets, and Other Verses' (Chicago), by William Henry Thorne, editor of the *Globe Review*, offers serious and thoughtful strains. 'My Garden Walk,' by William Preston Johnson (New Orleans: Hansell), would have a certain interest by reason of the imprint, had not Mrs. Mary A. Townsend caught the inspiration of the Bayous so much better. 'The Thought of God, in Hymns and Poems,' by Frederick L. Hosmer and William C. Gannett (Boston: Roberts), offers a second series of those thoughtful and unhackneyed religious poems which are identified with the names of these authors. 'A Century of Charades,' by William Bellamy (Houghton), is a collection so crisp and piquant as almost to create a new branch of literature.

'Gathered Windfalls' (Albany: Moulton) is in memory of Mrs. Mary C. Peckham, a Rhode Island poet, but who wrote much of her verse in the Western States; 'One Hundred Sonnets' is also by a wife and mother (Mrs. Julia Noyes Stickney), and has been modestly printed at the pretty Merrimack village where the poems found birth (Groveland, Mass.: Ambrose). 'The Icicle, and Other Poems,' by E. W. Bäärnhelm (Esther Walden Barnes), is also a local product (Portsmouth, N. H.)—the Swedish name being really that of the author, whose father came in boyhood to this country and anglicized his name. 'Madonna, and Other Poems,' by Harrison S. Merritt (Philadelphia: Lippincott), has at least one bit of vivid local coloring, in this Nantucket poem (p. 108):

A PINE-TREE BUOY.

Where all the winds were tranquil
And all the odors sweet,
And rings of tumbling upland
Sloped down to kiss your feet,

There, in a nest of verdure,
You grew from bud to bough:
You heard the song at mid-day,
At eve the plighted vow.

But fate that gives a guerdon
Takes back a double fee:
She hewed you from your homestead
And set you in the sea.

And every bowling billow
Bends down your barren head,
To hearken if the whisper
Of what you knew is dead.

A VERY POPULAR ASTRONOMER.

Popular Astronomy. By Camille Flammarion. Translated from the French by J. Ellard Gore. D. Appleton & Co.

M. FLAMMARION is the most picturesque figure in the astronomy of our time. He was a computer at the Paris Observatory when the late Richard A. Proctor first came into public notice as an astronomical writer. For a generation little had been done to popularize astronomy in France, and one cannot but suspect that Flammarion saw in the works of Proctor a kind of nutriment for which the appetites of his countrymen could easily be whetted. Certain it is that he first wrote so much like a French Proctor that, could a man have a legal copyright in his own personality, the Englishman might have brought suit on the ground of infringement. But the Frenchman soon left his prototype far out of sight. He proved himself a born journalist of so advanced a type that the New York *World* showed a great lack of enterprise in not securing his services at any cost. The most common occurrence—a halo around the sun, or the occultation of a star or planet by the moon—becomes in his hands a subject for an elaborate article, with magnificent illustrations. His writings began to circulate wherever the French language was read. They were soon sold by the hundred thousand, and received with such enthusiasm that "Sociétés Flammarion" have been organized to do honor to his name and work, not only throughout France, but even in South America. A very pleasant feature of his writing is his unalloyed pleasure in his fame, which he nowhere conceals, and which, by the naïveté of its expression, is relieved from all appearance of offensive egotism. He is very proud of his private observatory. A Bohemian astronomer having given the name of our author to a lunar crater, an elaborate description of the "cirque Flammarion," with two fine illustrations, appears in his astronomical monthly. In the book now before us he tells how he was perplexed for months by a mathematical question of which he could find no solution in the books, apparently quite unconscious that the reason of its omission was that it was too simple to need mention.

That he can also write in serious vein is shown by his great volume on the planet Mars, which is an orderly and well-digested account of all the noteworthy observations upon the features of our neighboring planet from the invention of the telescope to the present time. A comparison of this work with his 'Popular Astronomy,' now before us, shows that he writes one way for the seeker after knowledge and another for the public.

Among our author's productions the 'Astronomie Populaire' is the largest and probably the most widely circulated. First published in 1879, it not only gained an instant and unprecedented popularity, but was crowned with the Montyon prize by the French Academy (not the Academy of Sciences, be it understood). Not until 1894, however, does it appear in an English translation. On comparing the latter with the original, the first thing to strike us is the omission of the most characteristic feature of the original work—its striking and peculiar illustrations; among a score of others, the following, most of which are full-page:

View of the skeletons of the last family of the human race, who, overtaken by the eternal frost which is to follow the cooling of the sun, have wrapped themselves in their last blanket, and lain down to die in a dreary cleft of an ice-bound rock.

Excitement and terror among the inhabitants of the moon, caused by the apparition in mid heaven of a balloon on its way from the earth.

Landscape view on the planet Mars, showing a troop of mounted horsemen bearing an unmistakable resemblance to North American Indians, cavorting in a forest of what looks more like colossal tuning-forks than anything a terrestrial botanist ever dreamed of.

The victims of Thermopylæ (in a rocky defile of course; thunder-riven rocks are Flammarion's favorite landscape features), cursing the barbarity of Mars, the god of war.

Fiancée of the early ages of the world, reclining on a crag, and awaiting, by the light of the evening star, the approach of her lover, who is seen in the distance toiling up to her perch, with the aid of a very modern-looking alpenstock.

Nature asserting her rights after war, in the form of an abandoned siege-cannon on which a dove has lighted.

After taking such a liberty with the original as to destroy its individuality, it is rather surprising to find the translator so punctilious in reproducing the text that he does not attempt either to bring it up to date or to correct it, except by interpolating sentences in square brackets, with his initials. How unsatisfactory this plan may prove in literary form will be seen by a single extract:

"We have already seen twenty-five stars blazing out in the sky with a spasmodic gleam, and relapsing to an extinction bordering on death [the number of well-authenticated cases of "temporary stars" is much less than twenty-five.—J. E. G.]; already bright stars observed by our fathers have disappeared from the maps of the sky [that any bright stars have really disappeared is very doubtful —J. E. G.]; a great number of red stars have entered on their period of extinction [that red stars are really cooling down is now a disputed question—J. E. G.]. The sun is but a star; he will meet with the fate of his sisters; suns, like worlds, are born to die, and in eternity their long career will have endured but 'the space of a morning'" (p. 79).

This is an extreme case, yet such interpolations stare at us all through the book. It is difficult to see what objection the author could have made to having the translator bring the book up to date and otherwise adapt it to English tastes. The policy adopted has, however, resulted in giving us a very interesting and even amusing picture of the author's style and method of treatment. Digressions, personal and otherwise, constantly relieve the tedium. A meteoric shower occurring when the author was in Rome leads him to report a conversation with the Pope on the subject. An optical illusion of some observers who looked at a transit of Mercury with very bad telescopes leads to a description of comical typographical blunders in newspapers, having no relation to astronomy. After half a page of this, he remembers that he has not finished up with the planet Mercury, and returns to it. Here and there we have such rhapsodies as the following, which shows not only the digression, but the smooth and easy curve by which he gets back to his subject, after straying so far that we should fear he was hopelessly lost:

"O folly of terrestrial mannikins! folly of busy merchants, folly of the miser, folly of

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the suitor, folly of the pilgrim to Mecca or to Lourdes, folly of the blind! When shall the inhabitant of the earth open his eyes to see where he is, to live the life of the mind, and to base his happiness on intellectual contemplations? When shall he throw off the old man, the animal cover, to free himself from the fetters of the flesh, and soar in the heights of knowledge? When shall astronomy shed its light upon all minds? But the star of night recalls us. We already know its distance, its magnitude, its motions. We shall soon pay a visit to its rugged surface. Before undertaking this voyage there still remains, however, an interesting point to elucidate; it is the weight of this globe, and, in connection with that, the density of the materials which compose it, and the force of gravity at its surface.

"*How has the moon been weighed?*"

To measure a book written in this way by a serious standard would scarcely be reasonable. That it is often inaccurate in details, and frequently gives us conjecture for certainty, need not be stated. Accuracy in such a book can be secured only by an amount of serious study, and extended knowledge of the errors of older observers with their imperfect instruments, which would be very irksome in a writer of M. Flammarion's characteristics. Still, it is only due to him to say that, under the bountiful portion of *sauce piquante* which he serves us, there is found more good meat than several eminent popularizers of science in England are wont to offer us. Judging by what we see of the productions of the latter, this generation cares nothing for serious knowledge, and will study the results of science only when they are put into the extremest form of modern sensational journalism. Such being the case, no form of astronomy could suit them better than M. Flammarion's book. If less serious than Mr. Proctor's 'Old and New Astronomy,' it is much more amusing.

Mr. Gore has done the work into smooth and very readable English, and if he does not always give the exact sense of the original, no harm is done except when he makes such a slip as to spoil the point of an anecdote by rendering *visiter* by "visit." Nor can we allege against our author the supposed failure of his countrymen to know anything about what is done outside of France. An interest in and appreciation of things American is shown in more than one passage.

In Old New York. By Thomas Janvier. Harpers.

Mr. Janvier successfully overcomes two of the temptations that beset chroniclers of the infancy of American cities where the rapid encroachment of the new all but obliterates the old. The scarcity of historical survivals leads, on one hand, to bare statement of facts and statistics, and on the other, to excessive imaginative decoration. Mr. Janvier has found the middle way, and has set forth the results of careful, even loving, personal research touched with pleasant fancy.

Any truthful record of the growth of New York must deal chiefly with the development of trade and multiplication of streets, subjects so inflexible for literary treatment that an effort to disguise or modify the truth by lingering on picturesque features of the early Dutch and English occupations might easily be forgiven. Mr. Janvier asks no quarter, but depends on his literary skill to make uncompromising truth agreeable. After a well-condensed sketch of the little Dutch trading-post and of Governor Stuyvesant's inglorious exit from New Amsterdam, with the passage of the Bolting Act in 1678, he plunges into the prosy ways of commerce and pursues them steadily to the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825. The perfecting of a waterway connecting the city by the sea with the remote interior completed, he thinks, the material evolution of New York: "That is to say, by the year 1825 the essential elements were assembled—a large and mixed population, transportation facilities into the heart of the continent, a foreign trade diffused over the whole globe—which constitute the New York of to-day." Between these two important dates we learn why New York grew so fast, why in the first two centuries of existence it did not grow even faster, and exactly how it struggled and faltered topographically until the wise men, sitting in council in 1811, declared that it should henceforth become a straight-away right-angled city, decorous and trim to look upon, and, above all things, easy to get about in. Giving the Commissioners their due for foresight and common sense, Mr. Janvier continues critically:

"All that can fairly be said in the premises—and this quite as much in their justification as to their reproach—is that they were surcharged with the dulness and intense utilitarianism of the people and the period whereof they were a part. Assuredly the work would have been done with more dash and spirit a whole century earlier—in the slave-dealing and piratical days of New York, when life here had a flavor of romance and was not a mere grind of money-making in stupid, commonplace ways."

Passing from the general to the particular, in papers on "Greenwich Village," "Lispenard's Meadows," etc., fidelity to fact is still the guiding star; but in handling people identified with localities and single houses which enshrined memories of historical personages, imagination naturally has more leeway. The author's mode of giving information about the past, vivifying it by reference to the present, and indicating character, is well illustrated in a paragraph concerning the several transfers of a large estate known successively as Sappokanican, Bossen Bouerie, Greenwich Village.

"With even greater but more personal astuteness, the second Dutch Governor, Wouter van Twiller—having a most unbecoming regard for his own strictly individual interests—made himself at once grantor and grantee of this property, and so appropriated the Company's Farm No. 3 as his own private tobacco-plantation. He was a weak brother, this Governor Van Twiller, and his governing was of a feeble and spasmodic sort; but his talent for converting public property to private uses was so marked that it would have given him prominence at a very much later period in the history of the Ninth Ward—the whole of which section of the future city, it will be observed, with some considerable slices from the adjacent territory, he grabbed with one swoop of his big Dutch hands."

Again, in connection with Greenwich, there is a delightful sketch of Sir Peter Warren, K.B., and the fortunes of his daughters run along with the tales of the old roads named after these fine ladies, Abingdon, Fitzroy, and Southampton. Mr. Janvier has traced the twists and turns of these old roads indefatigably, and made a list of surviving landmarks which may surprise veteran New Yorkers.

To all curious prowlers about the city, old citizens or newcomers, we heartily commend Mr. Janvier's book. For practical use, edification, and entertainment, no book on the subject that we know compares with it.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Alger, J. G. Glimpses of the French Revolution: Myths, Ideals, and Realities. Dodd, Mead & Co. $1.25.
Almanach de Gotha, 1895. Gotha: Justus Perthes; New York: Westermann.
Archer, T. A., and Kingsford, C. L. The Crusades: The Story of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem. Putnams. $1.50.
Baldwin, Dr. D. A. The Family Pocket Homœopathist. 3d ed. Rochester, N. Y.: E. Darrow & Co. 50 cents.
Bates, Prof. Katharine L. Shakspere's Merchant of Venice. Leach, Shewell & Sanborn. 35 cents.
Betham-Edwards, M. A Romance of Dijon. London: A. & C. Black; New York: Macmillan. $1.25.
Biddle, A. J. D. A Dual Role, and Other Stories. Worcester, Mass.: Warwick Book Co. 50 cents.
Bigelow, Poultney. The Borderland of Czar and Kaiser. Harpers. $2.
Chandler, Mrs. I. C. Three of Us. Hunt & Eaton. $2.
Clarke, Rev. J. F. Messages of Faith, Hope and Love. Boston: G. H. Ellis. $1.
Clark, W. L. Hand-Book of the Law of Contracts. St. Paul: West Publishing Co.
Claretie, Jules. Jean Mornas. [Modern French Series.] Philadelphia: Christopher Sower Co.
Cochrane, C. B. Songs from the Granite Hills of New Hampshire. Boston: Cupples & Patterson. $1.25.
Cotterell, George. Poems, Old and New. London: David Nutt.
D'Anvers's Elementary History of Art. 4th ed., newly revised by the author. London: Low, Marston & Co.; New York: Scribners. $3.75.
Daudet, Alphonse. L'Arlésienne. Boston: Joseph Knight Co. 75 cents.
Dawes, C. G. The Banking System of the United States. Rand, McNally & Co. 75 cents.
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